

# Fairy Tail

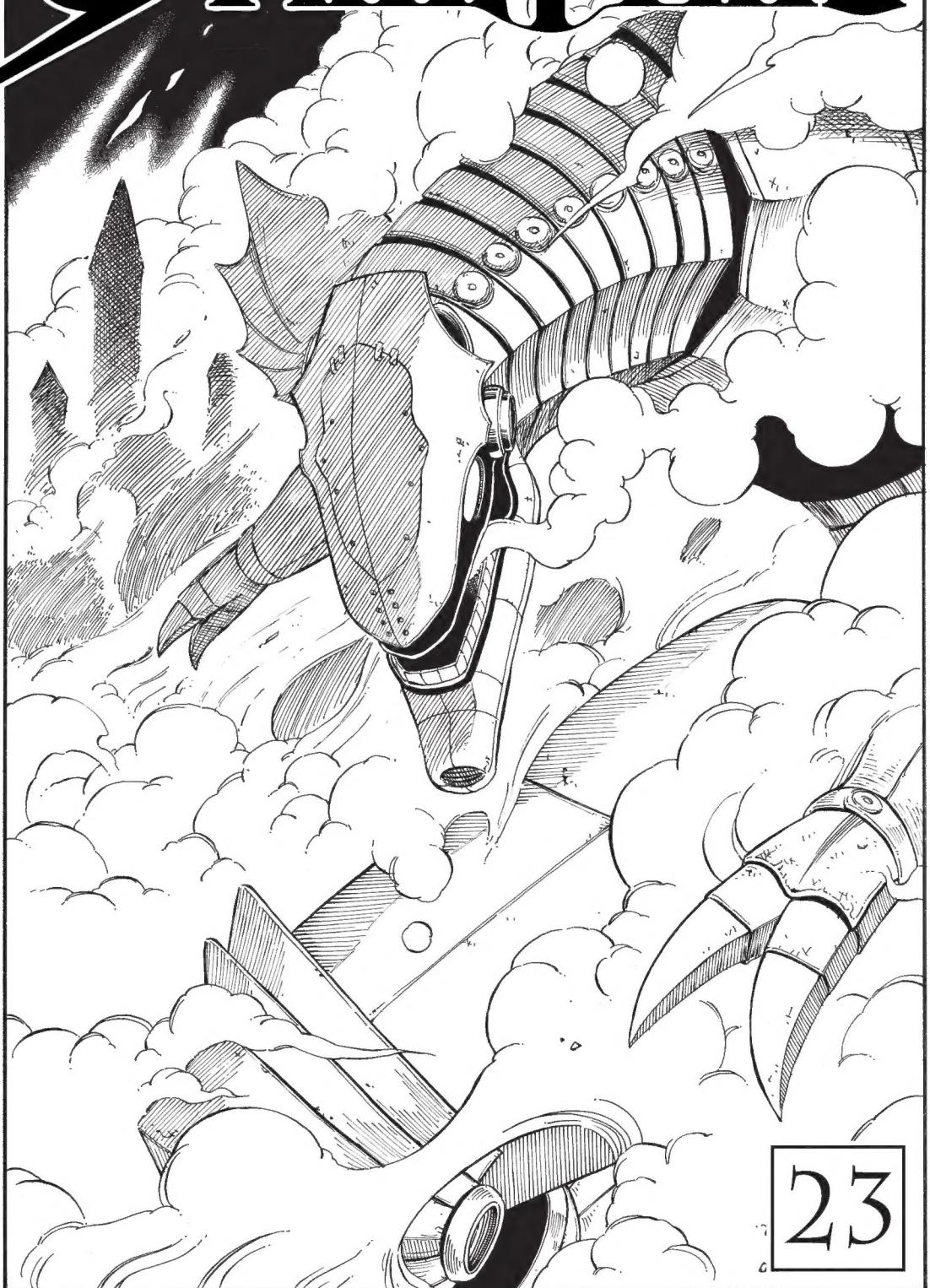
23



Hiro Mashima Creator of *Rave Master*



# FAIRY TAIL



23

HIRO MASASHIMA



# CONTENTS

Vol. 23  
contents

- Chapter 188: One Wing ━━━━ 3
- Chapter 189: The Boy From Back Then ━━━━ 23
- Chapter 190: Dragon Sense ━━━━ 43
- Chapter 191: Three-Man Cell ━━━━ 63
- Chapter 192: Won't Run Anymore ━━━━ 83
- Chapter 193: To Be Alive ━━━━ 103
- Chapter 194: I'm Standing Right Here ━━━━ 123
- Chapter 195: King of a New World ━━━━ 151
- Chapter 196: Demon God Dragneel ━━━━ 171

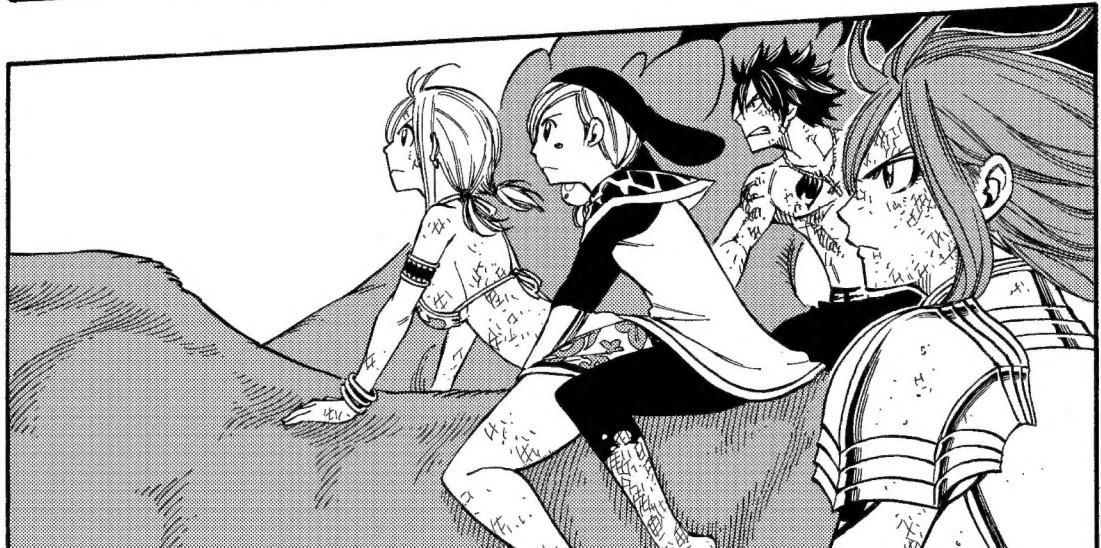


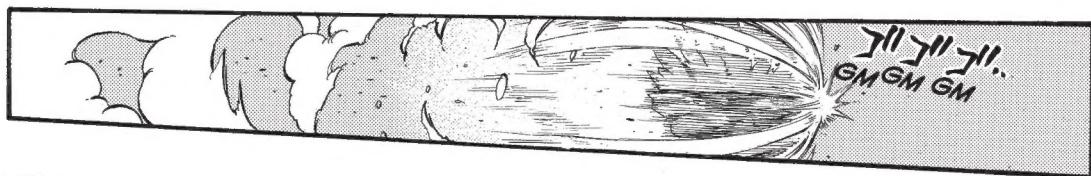
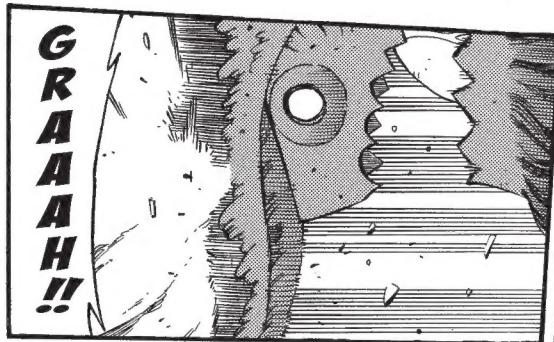
# FAIRY TAIL

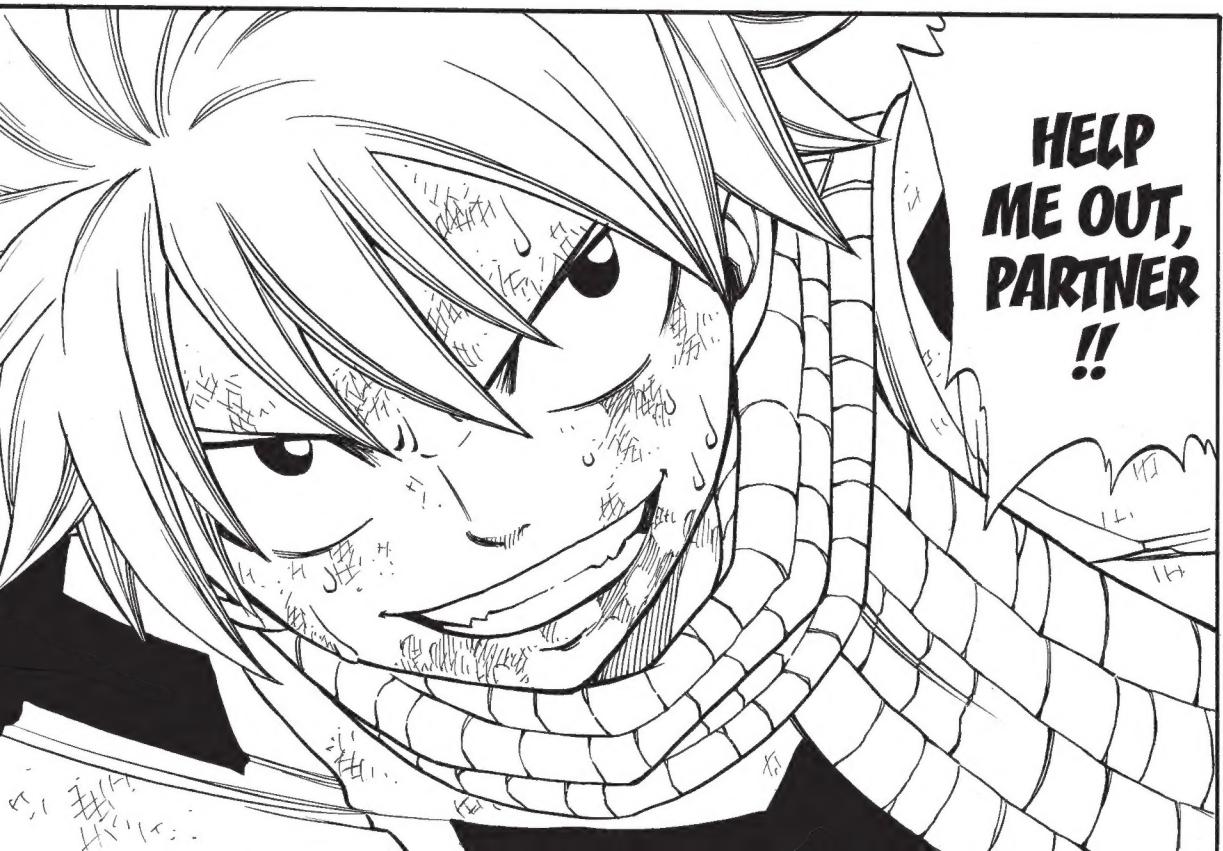
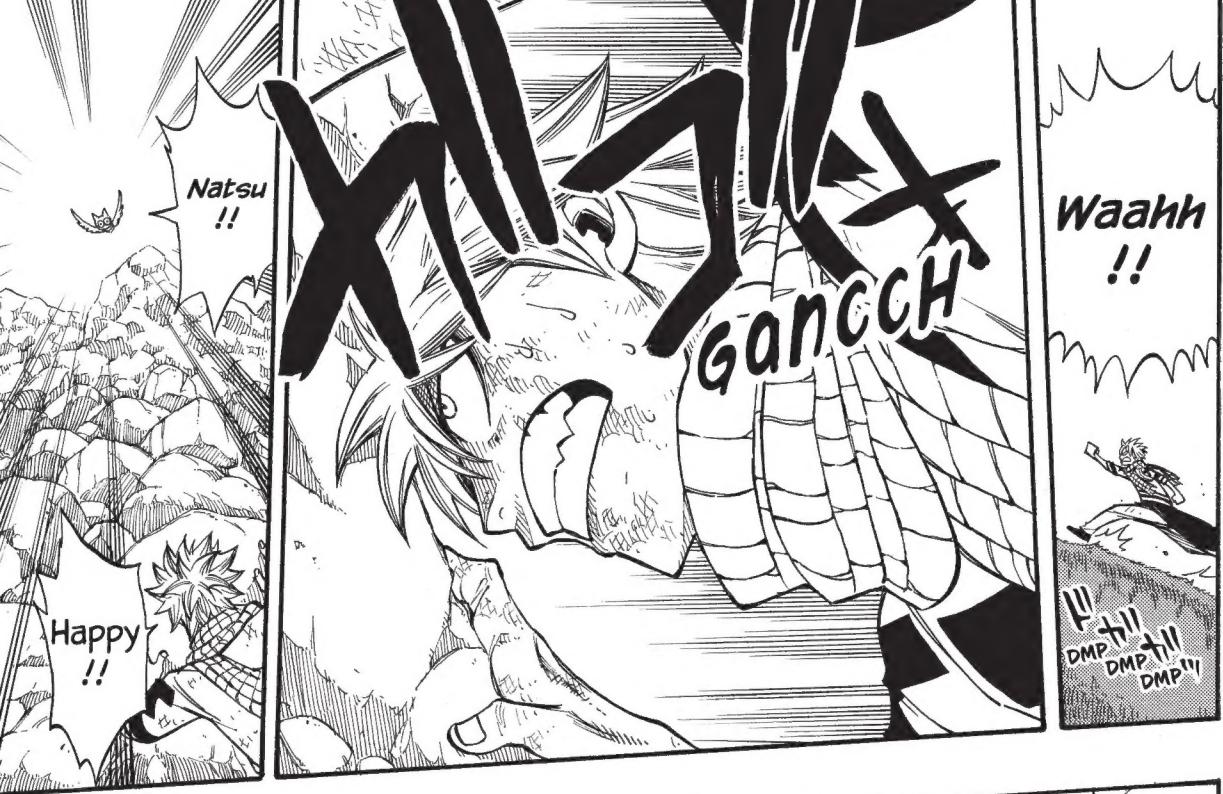
Chapter 188:  
One Wing

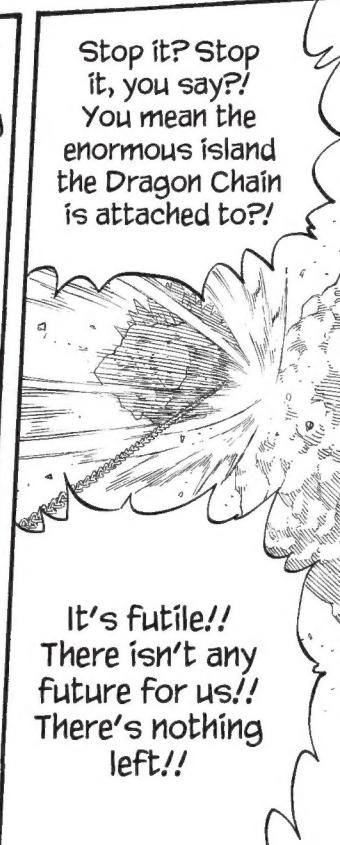
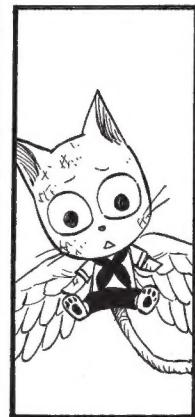
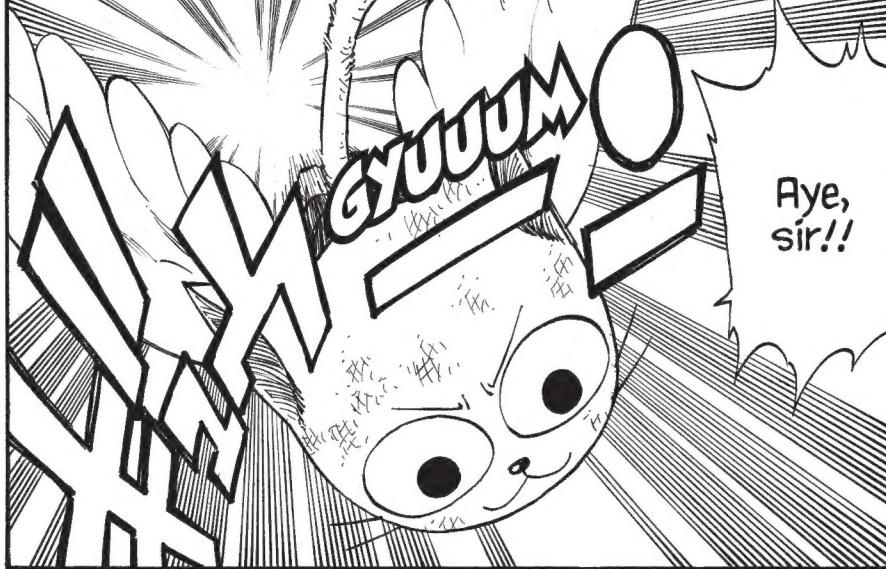
We  
can't let  
them crash  
into each  
other!!

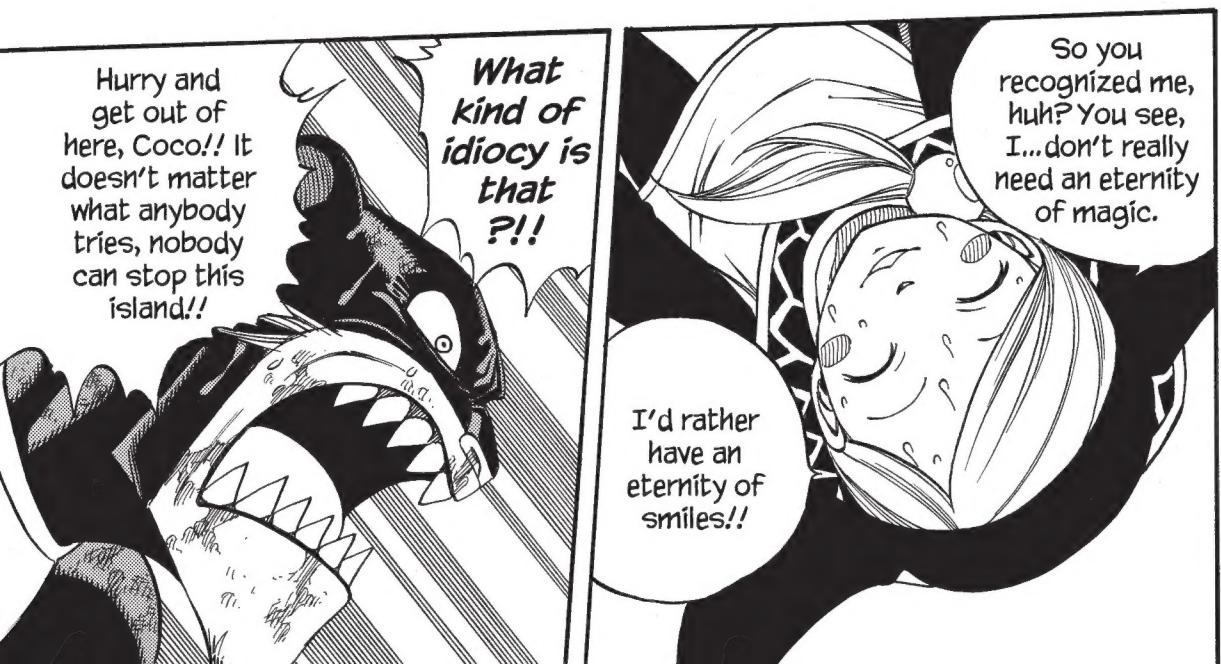
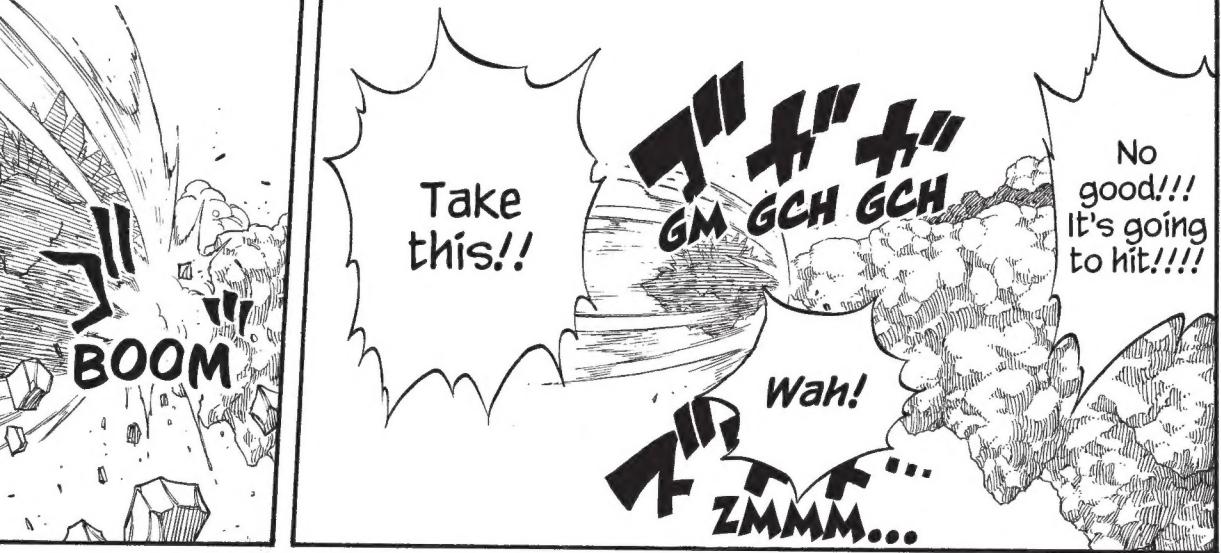
Hurry  
up!!





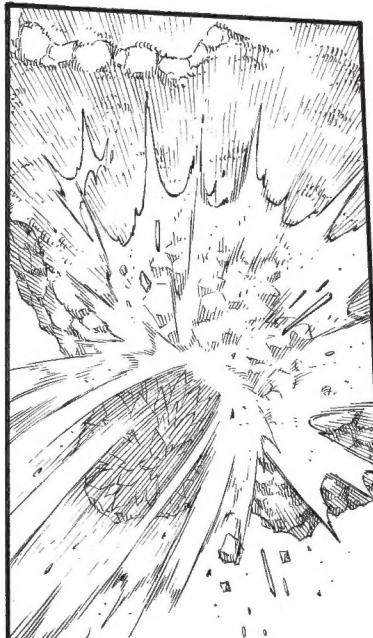


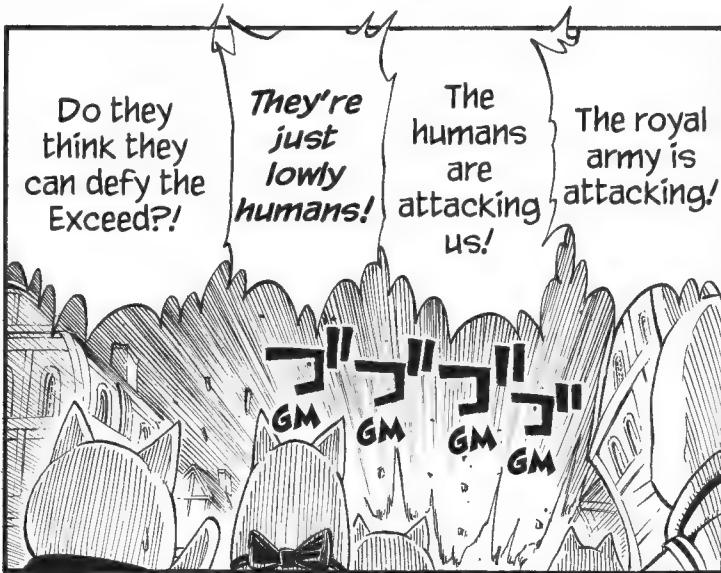


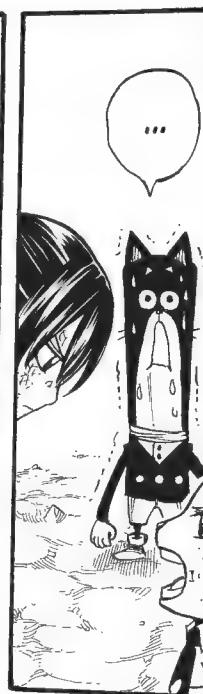
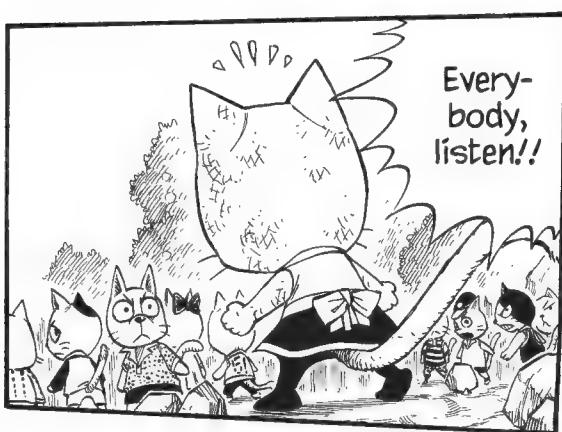


**WE  
WILL  
STOP  
IT!!!!**

**EVEN IF  
MY BODY  
FALLS  
APART,  
I'LL  
STOP IT  
WITH MY  
SPIRIT!!**

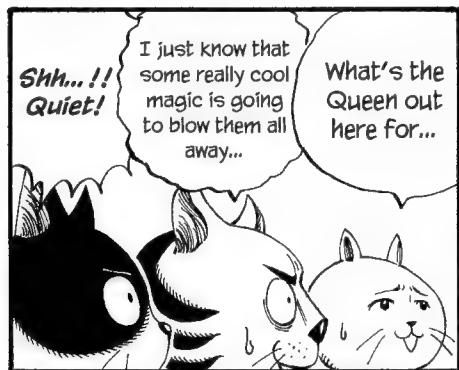


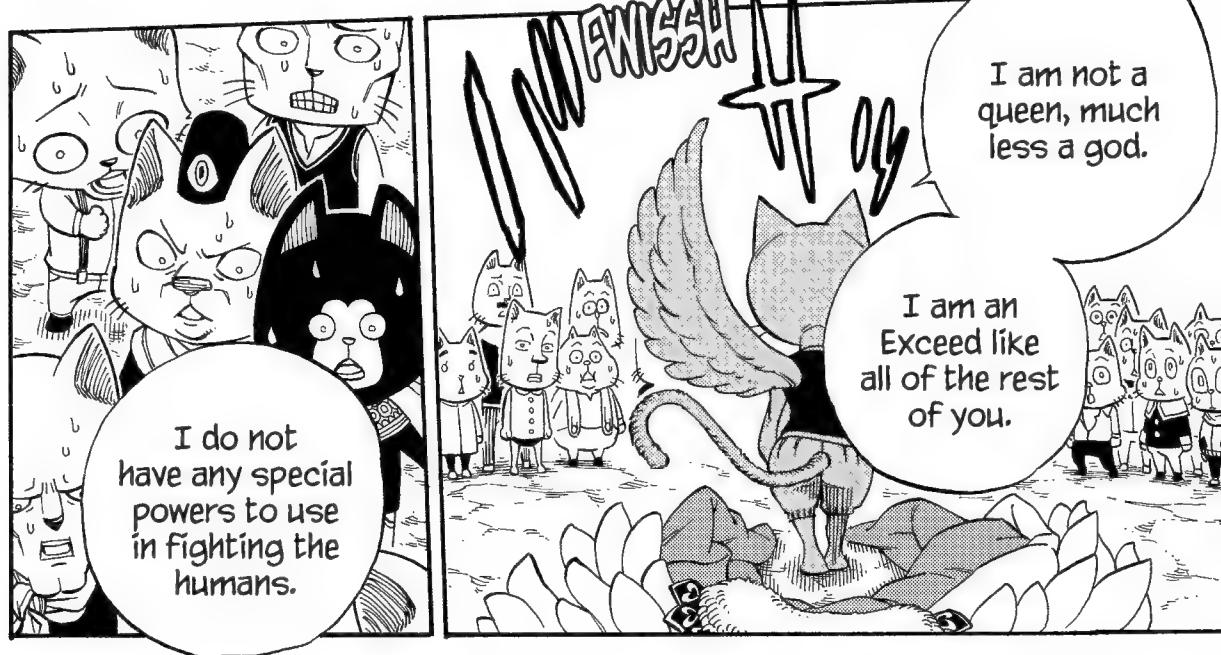
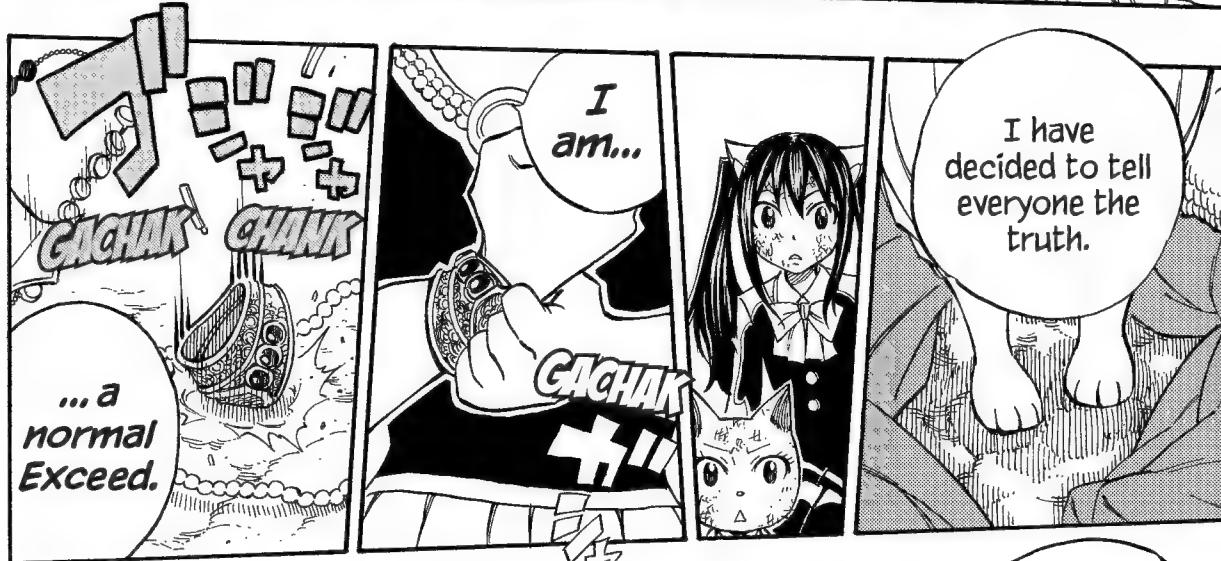
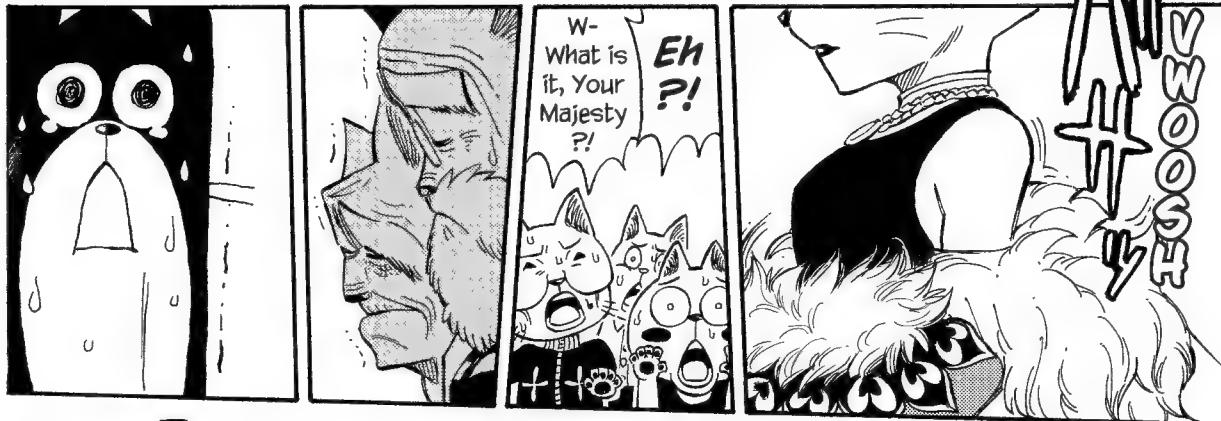














And so we made the humans believe that we had great power, to protect ourselves.

And long, long ago... we were subject to terrible treatment at the hands of the humans.

We are an extremely weak people.

No... It is we, the Elders, who are responsible for creating the position of "Queen."

We called it the power of God, but actually it was simply us gathering extensive knowledge and information on the world.

At first, no one believed. But eventually, even the humans came to fear this god's power.

...we convinced everyone on Extalia to believe in the power of a god.

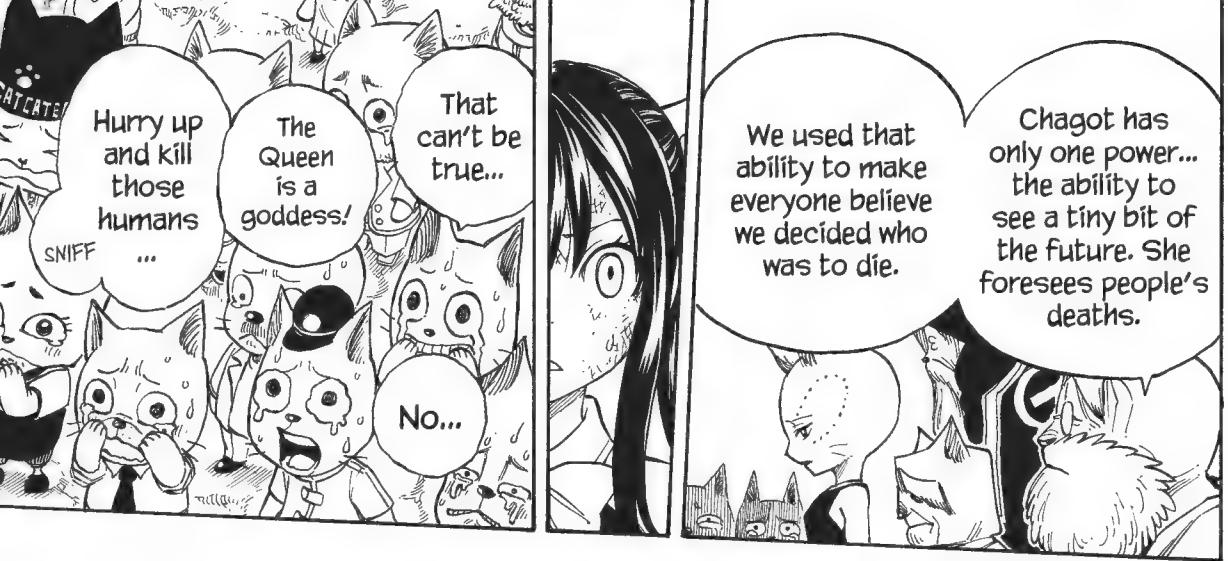
And to restore the Exceed's own self-confidence...

We never decided which human was to die.

Of course we have no such power.

For example, this campaign of "human control" that supposedly decided which humans were to die...

...was actually just us claiming credit afterwards.

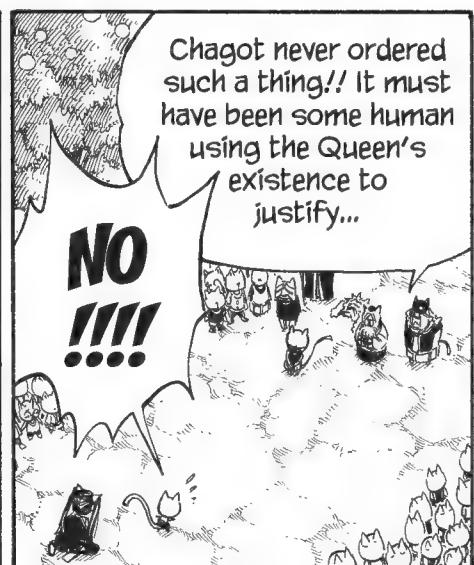


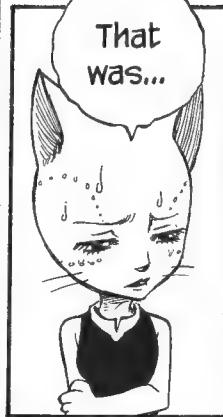
We used that ability to make everyone believe we decided who was to die.

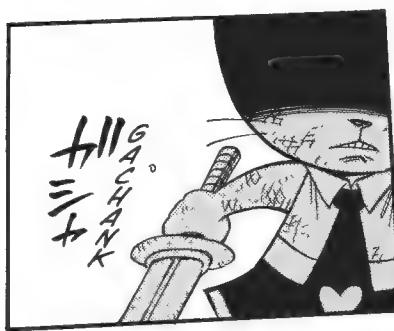
Chagot has only one power... the ability to see a tiny bit of the future. She foresees people's deaths.



YOU PLANTED WEIRD MEMORIES IN MY HEAD, AND YOU MANIPULATED ME!







No, everyone!!!!  
This country is  
destined to be  
destroyed!!!



Don't  
give up  
just like  
that!!!!

**SHLAK**



**So why  
are you  
giving up  
so easily  
now?!**

**Even though  
you told those  
lies, you were  
struggling as  
hard as you  
could to stay  
alive, right?!**

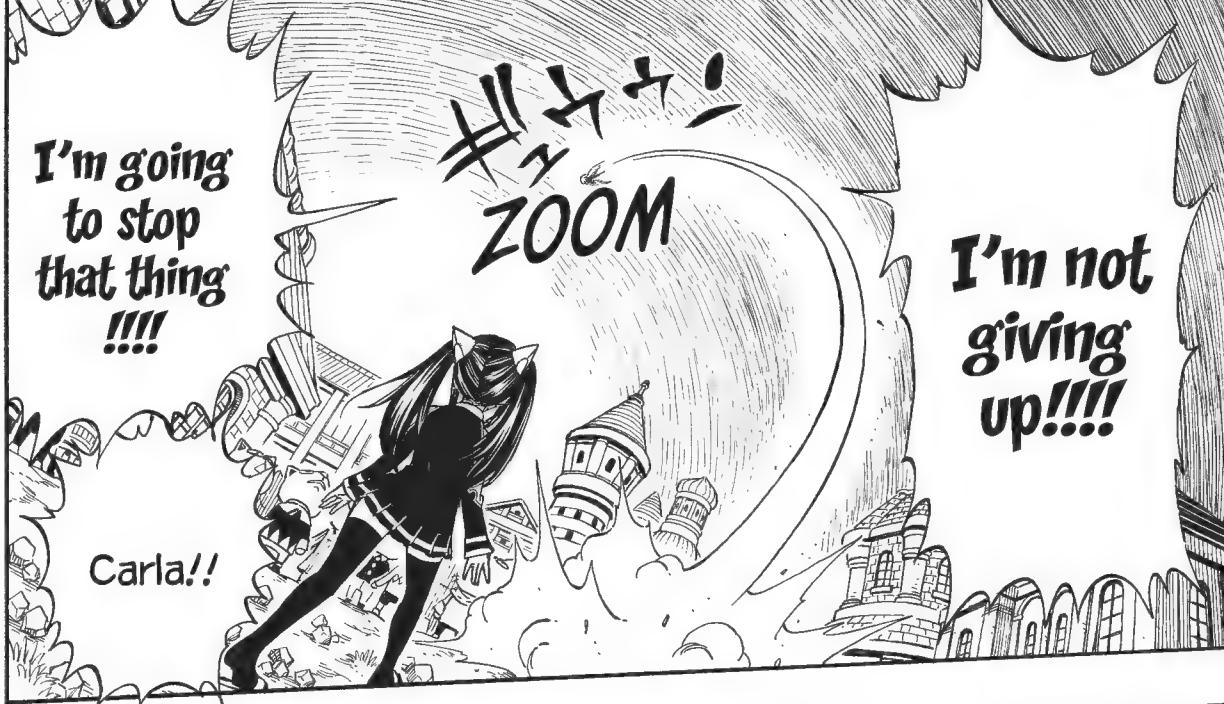
**This  
country  
won't be  
destroyed  
!!!!**

**You can do  
anything if  
you combine  
your strength  
!!!!**

**Who cares  
if you're  
weak?!**

**I can't  
let it  
disappear  
!!!!**

**It's my  
home-  
land  
!!!!**

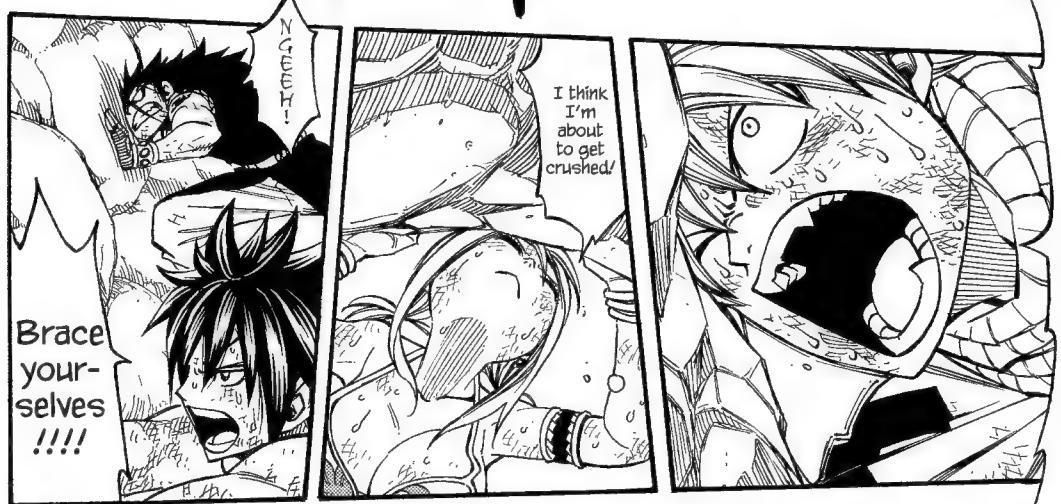


# FAIRY TAIL

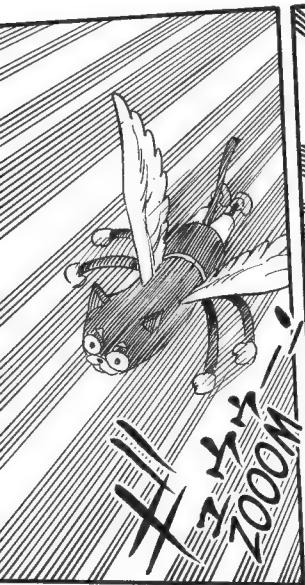
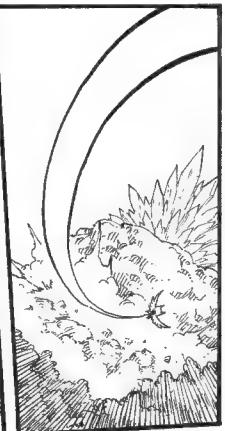
フェアリーテイル

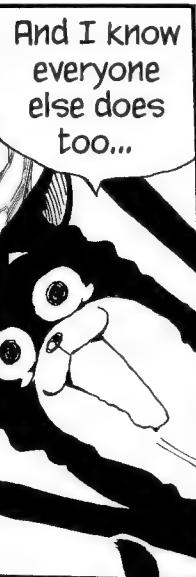
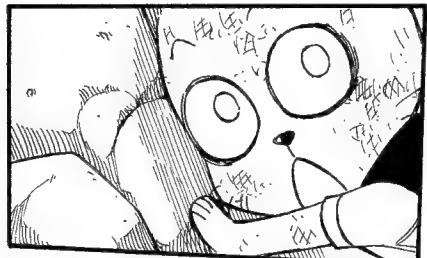
## Chapter 189: The Boy From Back Then





R R C C C C C O O O O O H H H H H H H H !!!

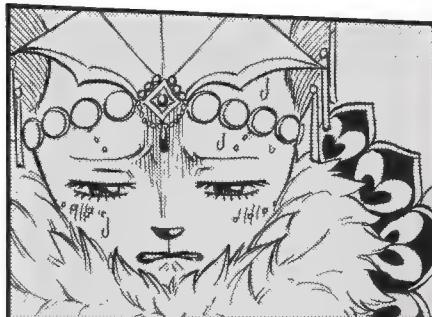
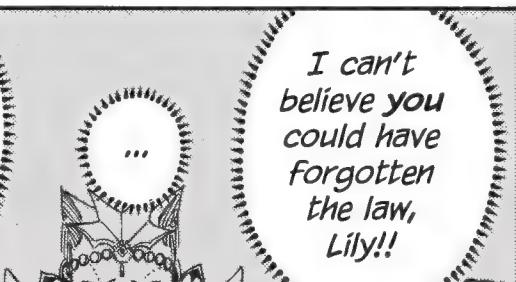
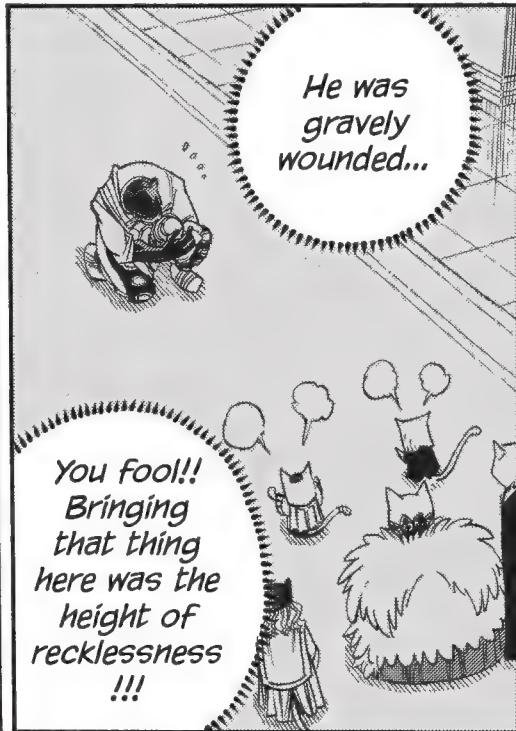
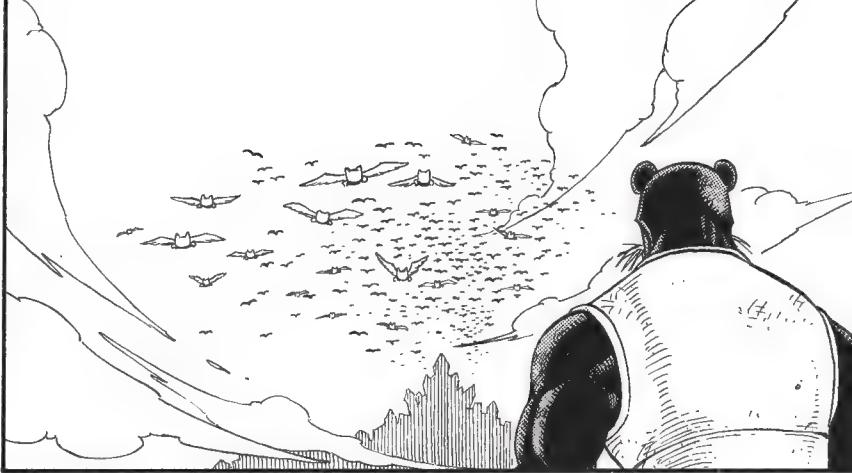




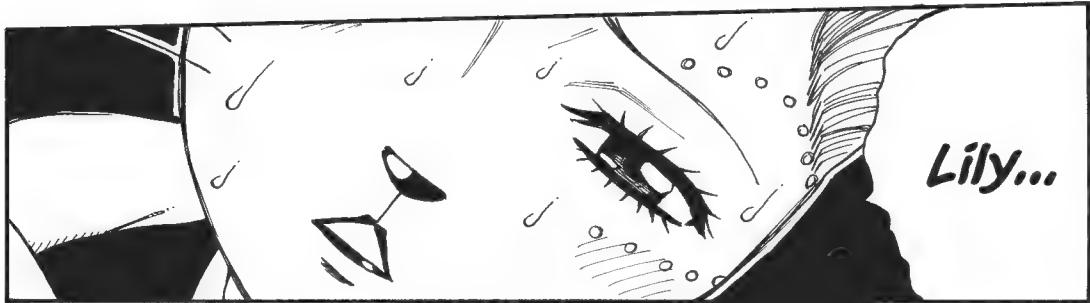


This is for the Queen who's been protecting our country and citizens from danger for all these years!

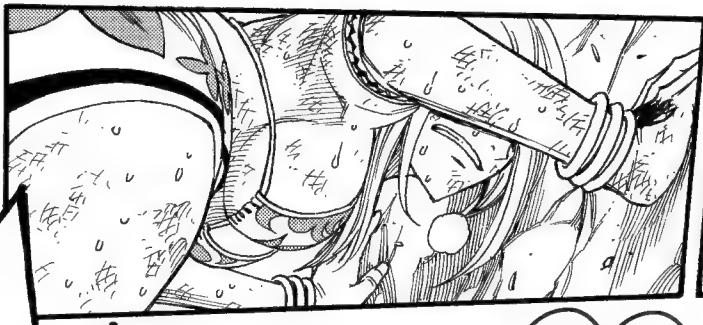


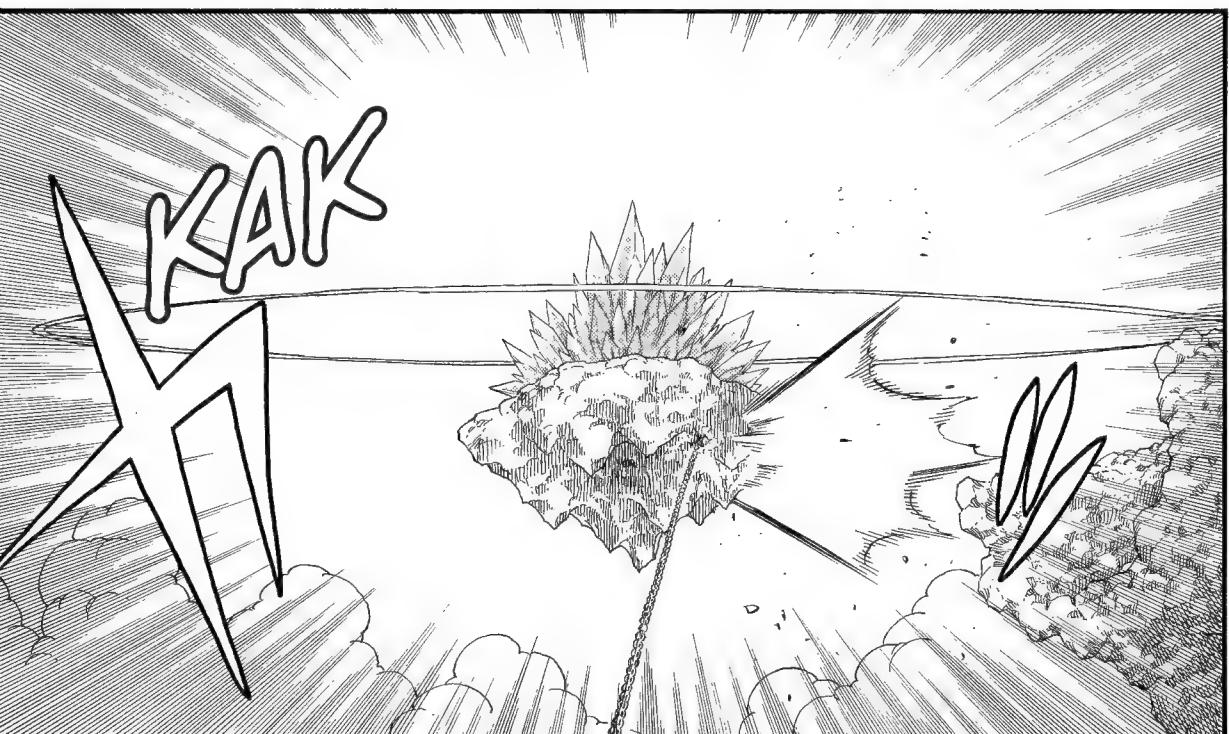


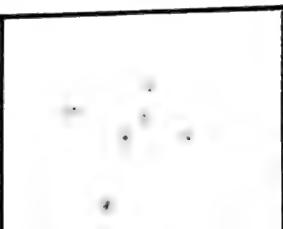
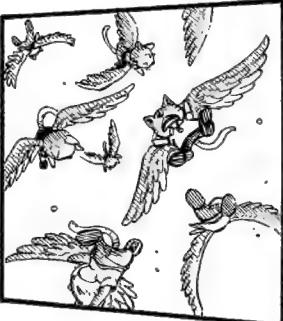
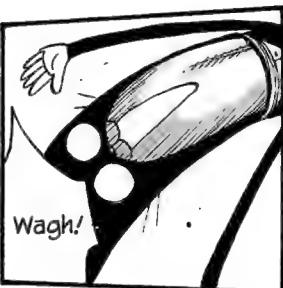


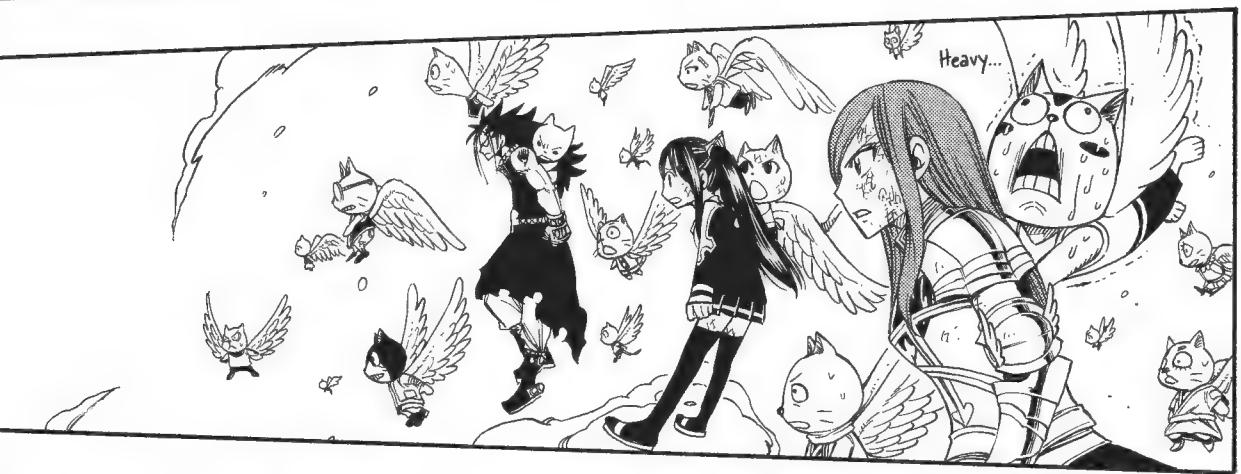


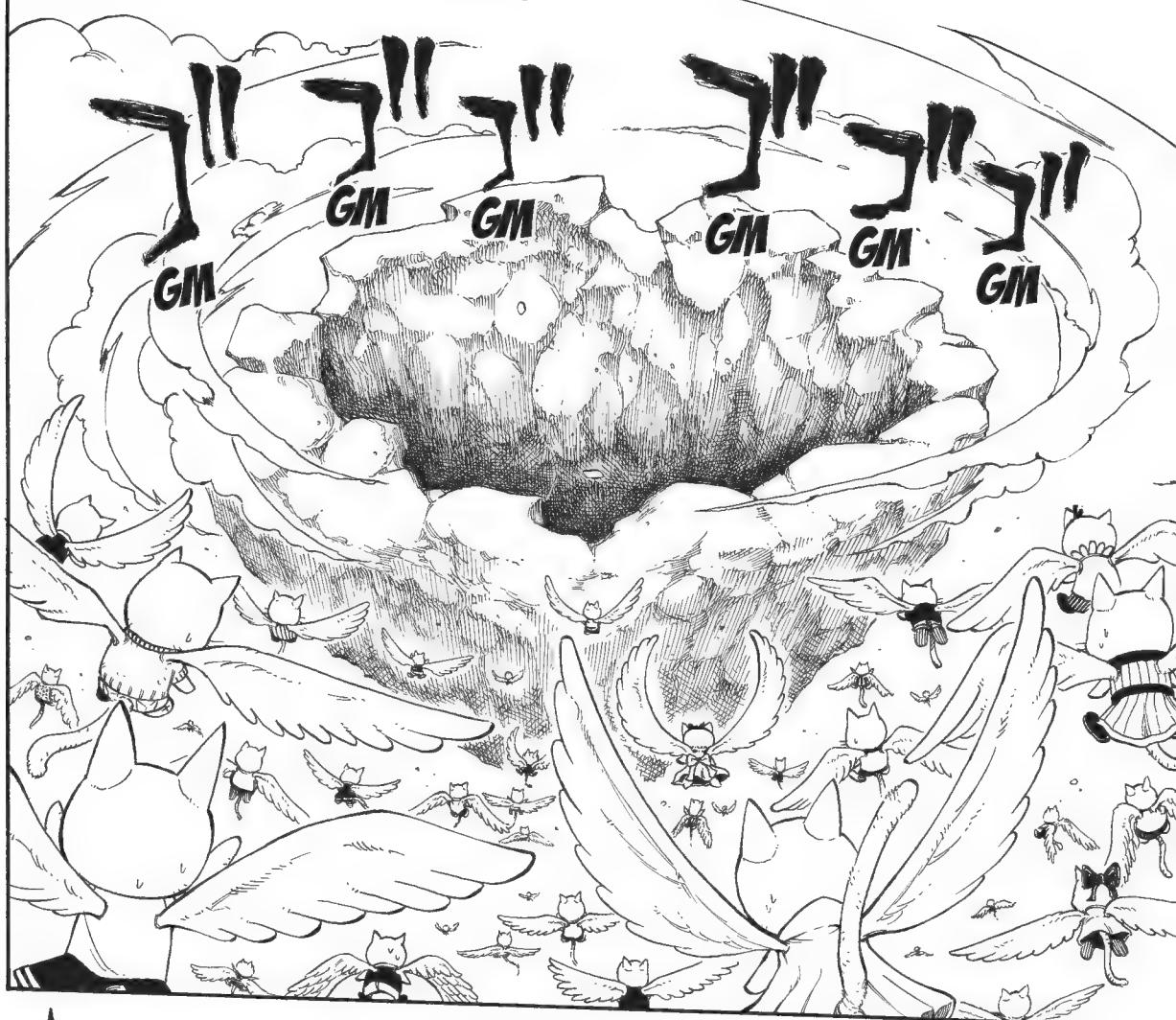














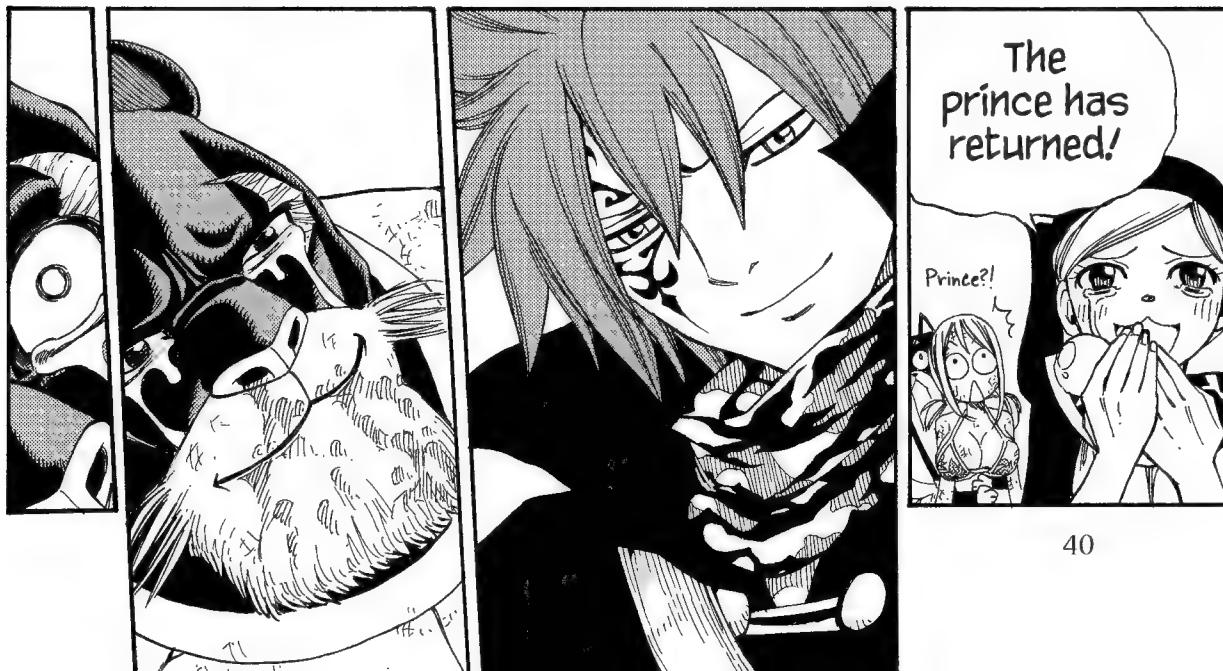
I am also grateful for your efforts. If it wasn't for you, I would not have made it in time.

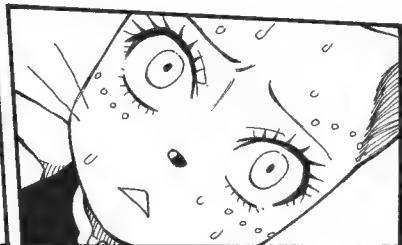
I am sorry it took so long to find the traces of an anima large enough to return everything to the way it was.













IT  
isn't  
over  
yet  
!!!!

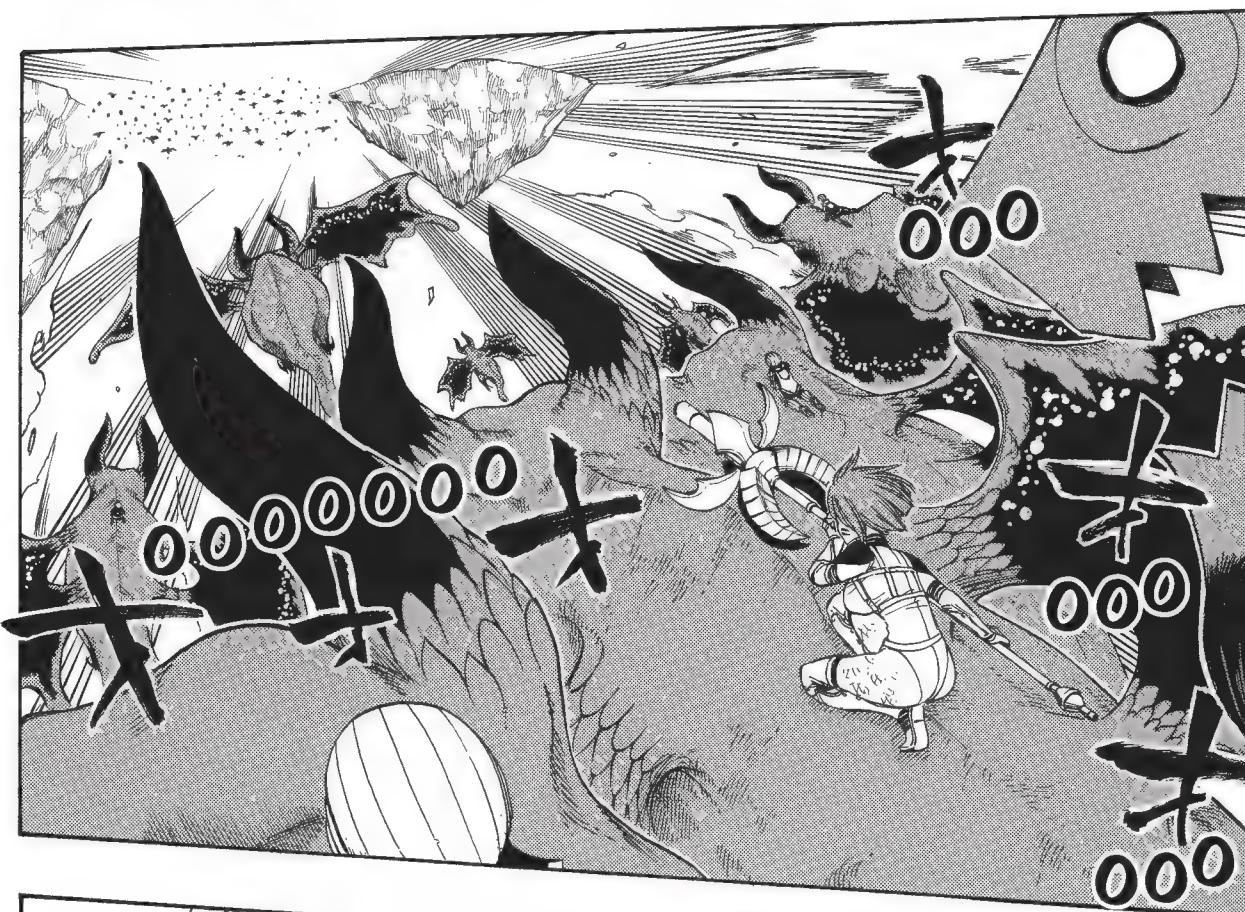
ROAR

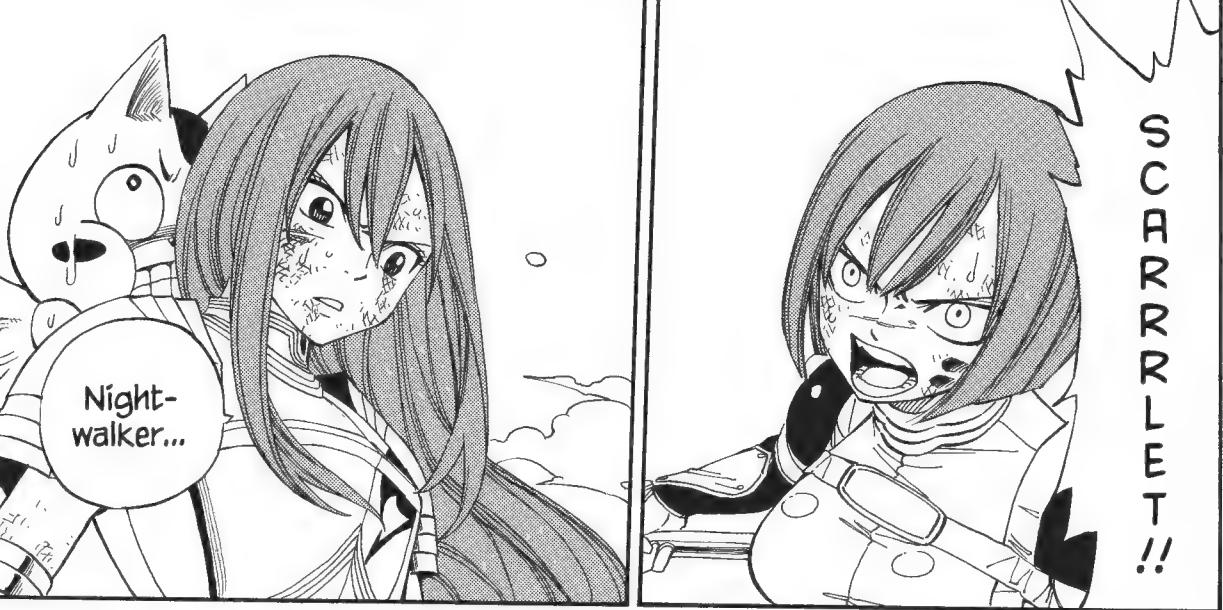
# FAIRY TAIL

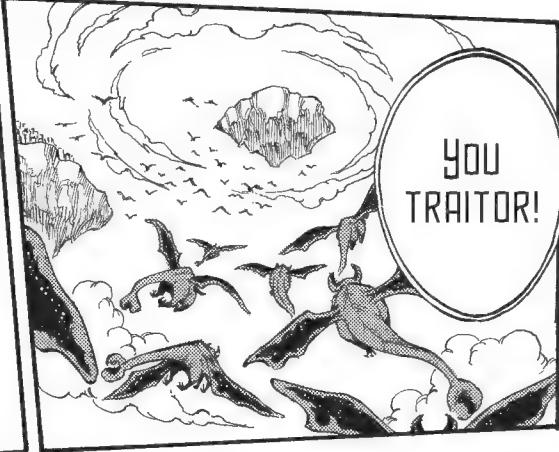
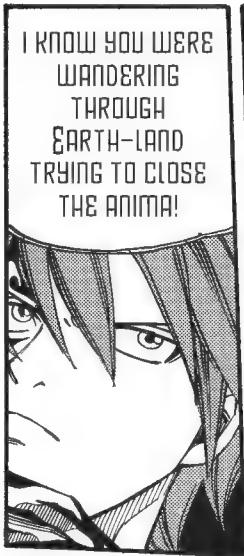
フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 190: Dragon Sense









THIS IS VENGEANCE  
AGAINST THOSE WHO  
WOULD STAND AGAINST  
THE KING... UNILATERAL  
EXTERMINATION!

THIS ISN'T A  
"FIGHT!"

You'll  
vanish  
without  
a trace!

If  
you intend  
to stand in  
opposition  
...

...even you  
will be  
wiped out!

Wh-  
What's that  
mean...  
?!!

We will create  
another giant Lacrima  
and fuse it with the  
Exceed! We can do this  
over and over!

ZWUUUN  
ZU GID  
And if we can put a  
stop to you here and  
now, then there will  
be no fools left to  
oppose our Earth-Land  
Anima Plan!

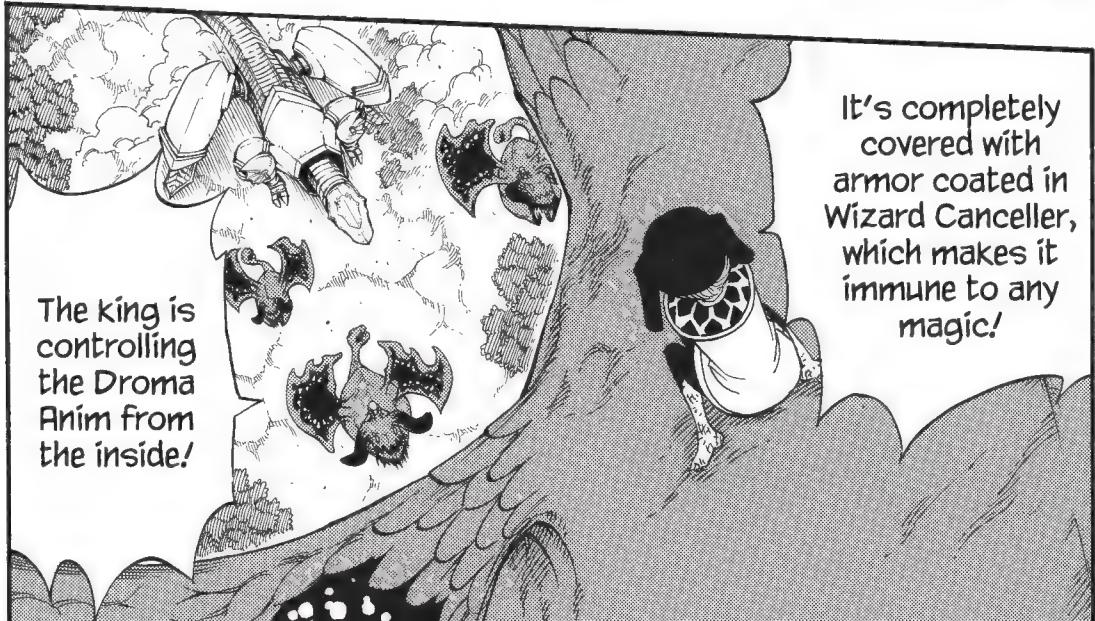
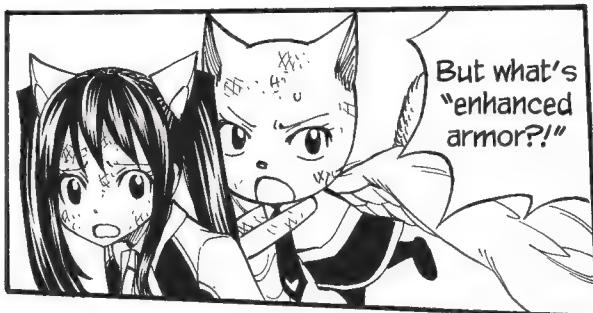
I AM NOT  
YOUR FATHER,  
I AM THE KING  
OF EDOLAS!

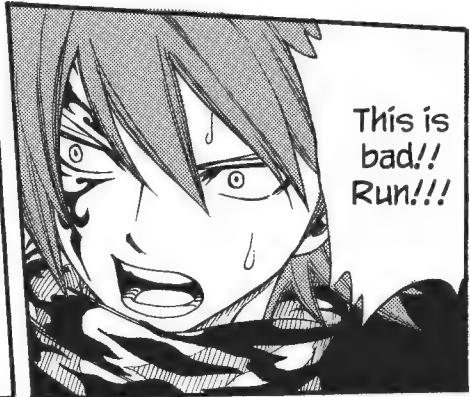
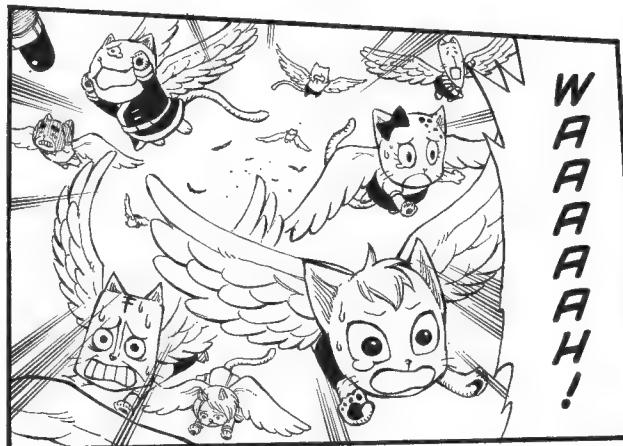
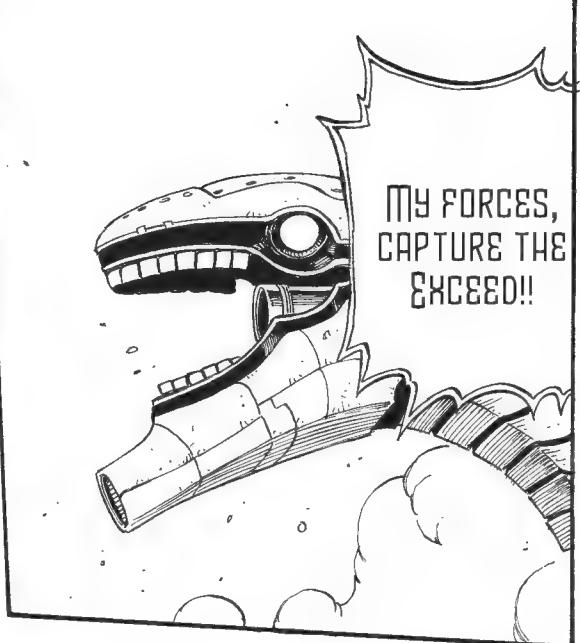
Father  
...

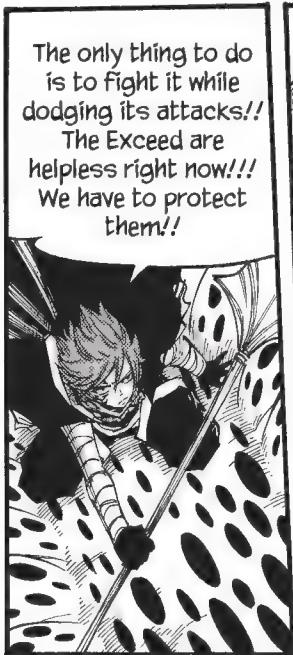
The  
power  
of the  
king is  
absolute  
!!!!



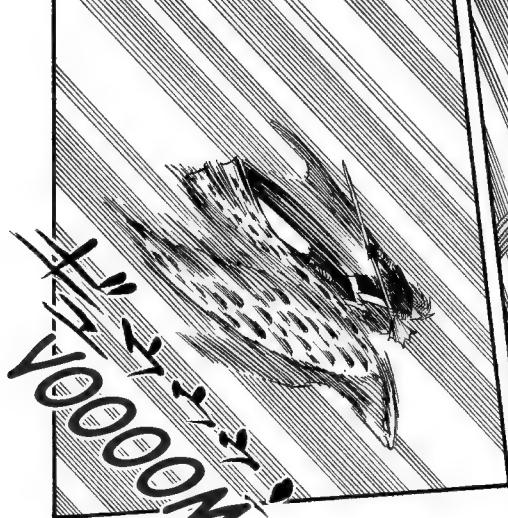
Wa ha ha ha  
ha ha!!!!  
There is  
nothing  
the King  
cannot  
do!!!!

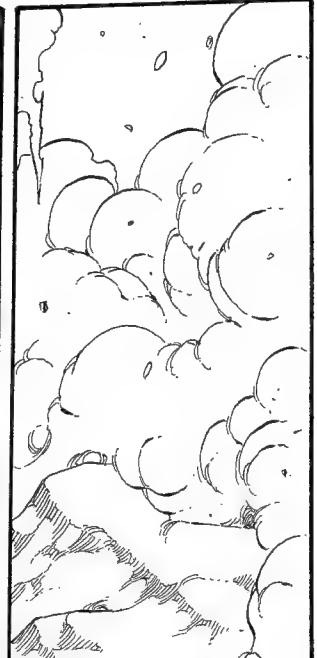
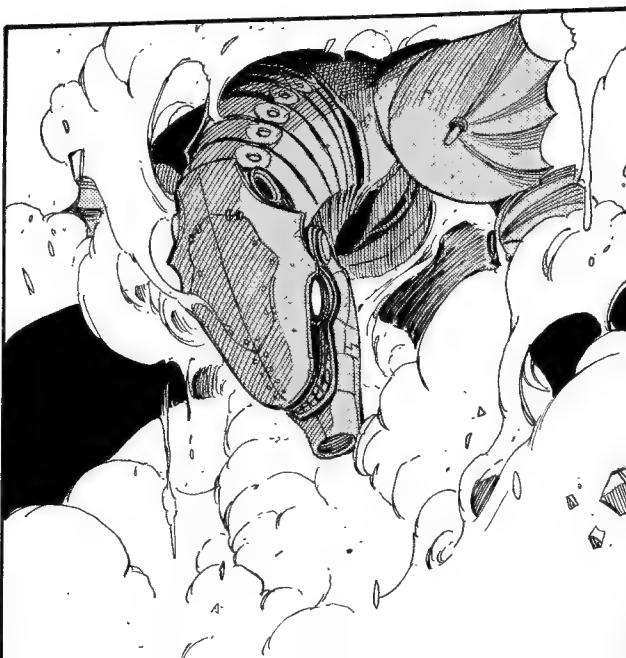








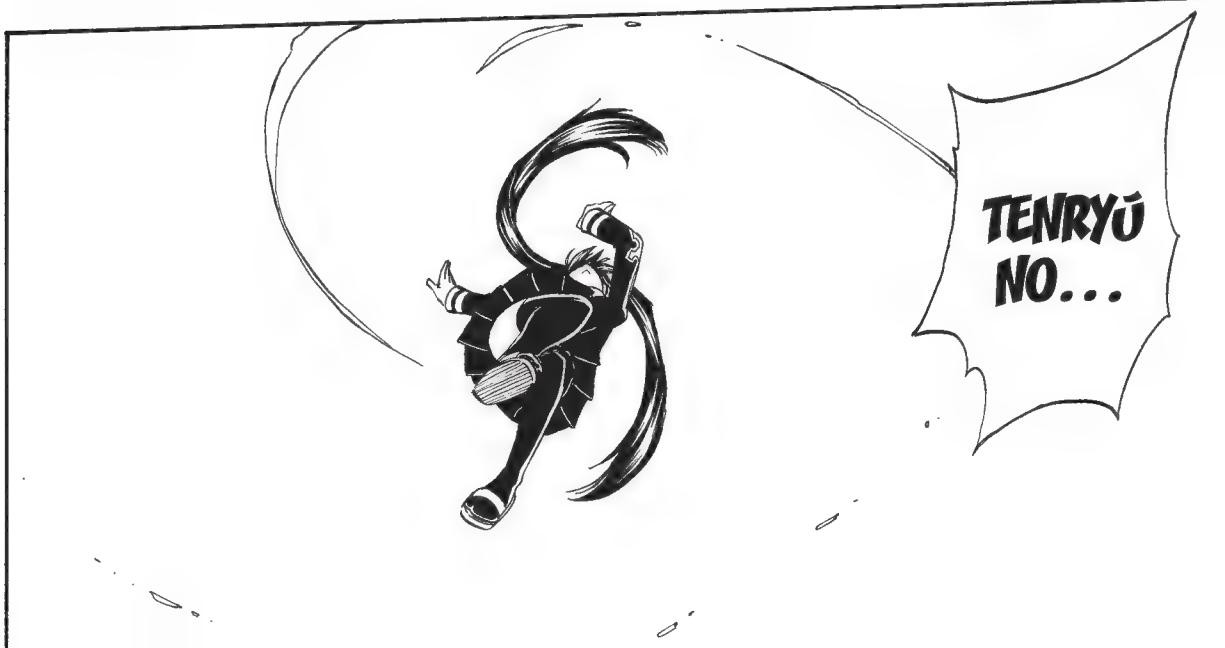




MAGIC WON'T  
WORK ON THE  
Drama Anim!!!



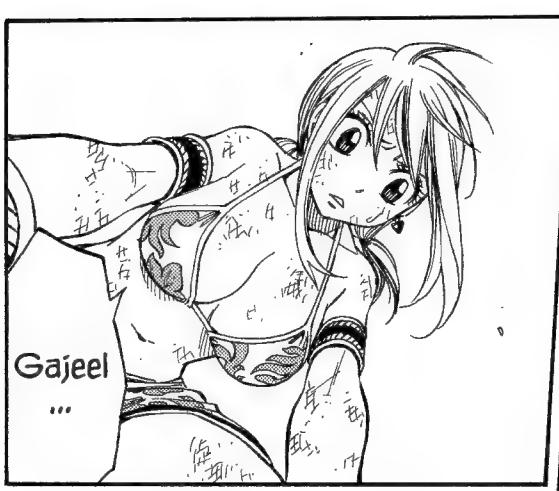
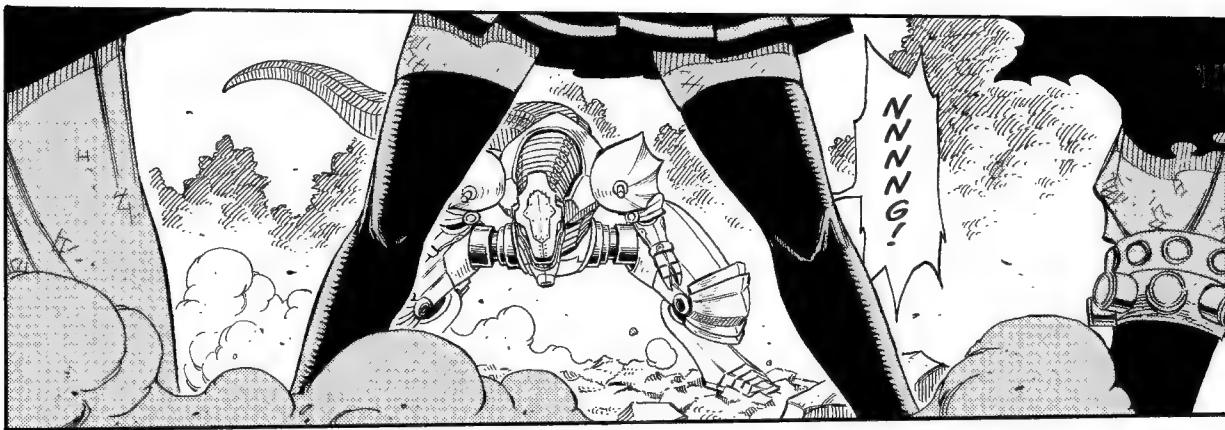






\*Sky Dragon's Roar







**GWOOO**

**Dragon  
slayer  
wizards**

**!!!!**

**oooooo**

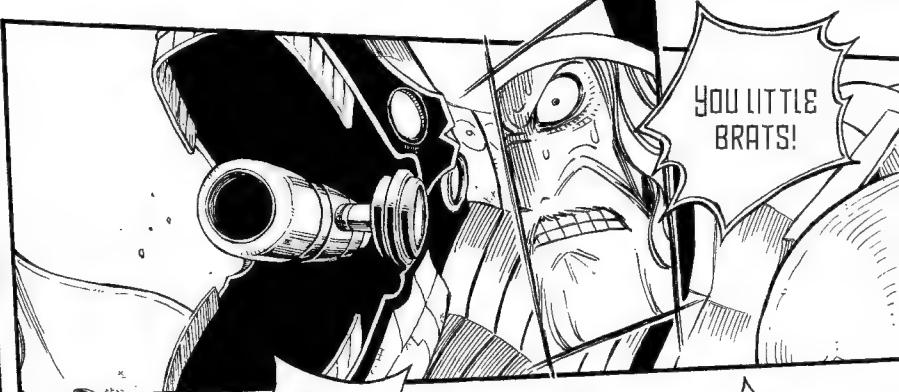


# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 191: Three-Man Cell





WHO  
DO YOU  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
DEALING  
WITH?!

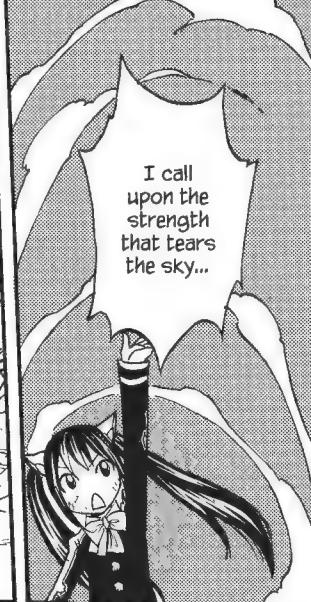


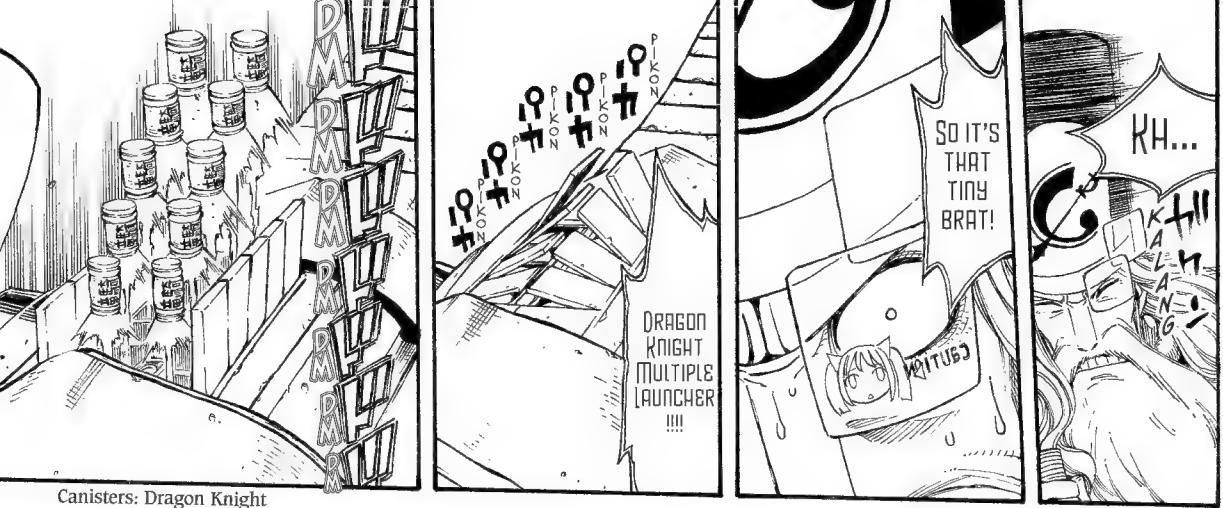
\*\*Iron Dragon Club!!!!

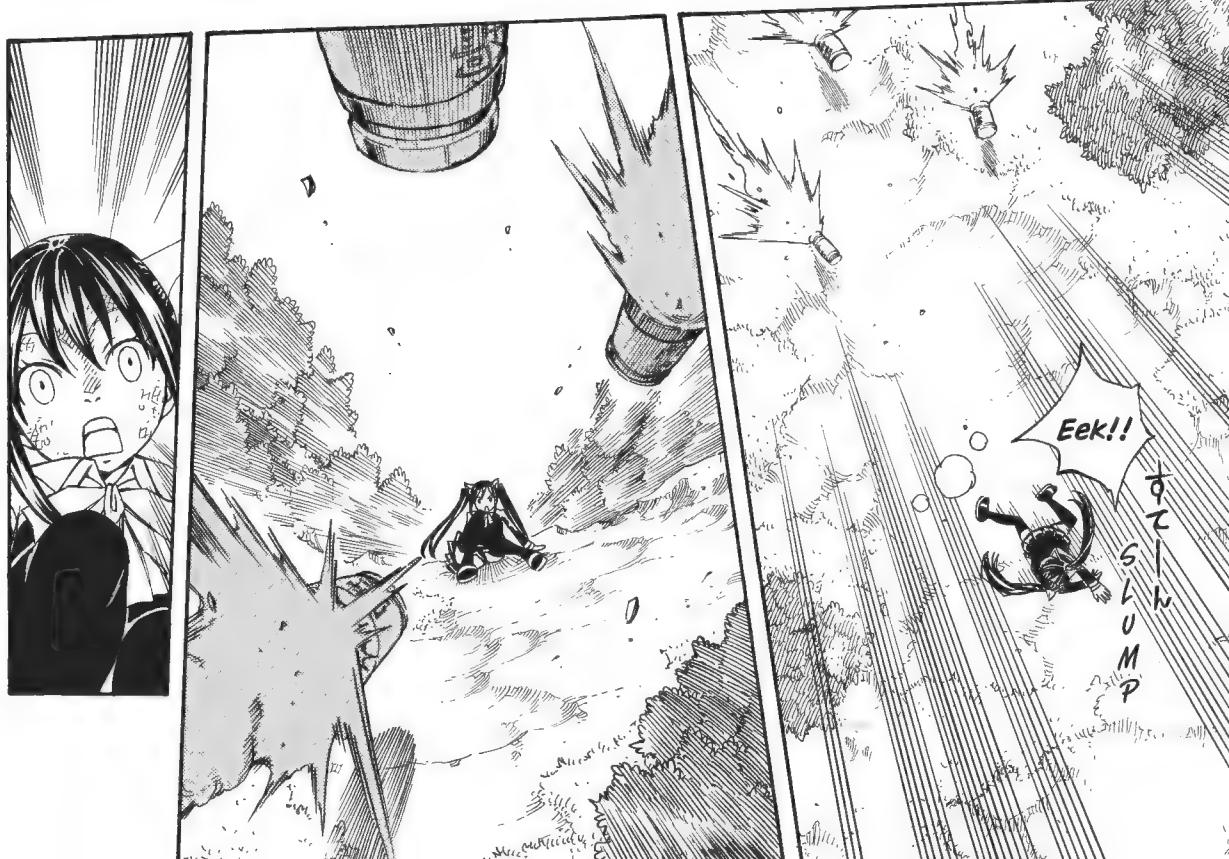
\*Fire Dragon's Iron Fist!!!!



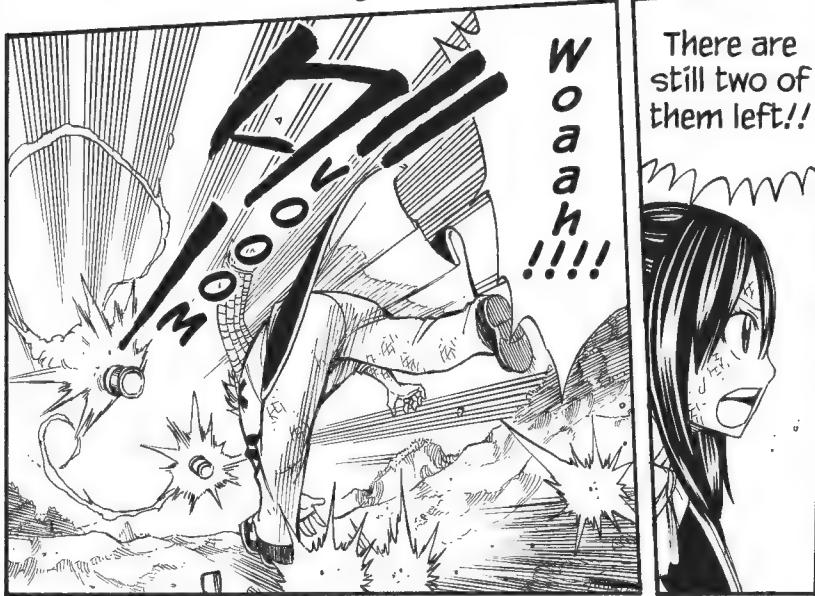
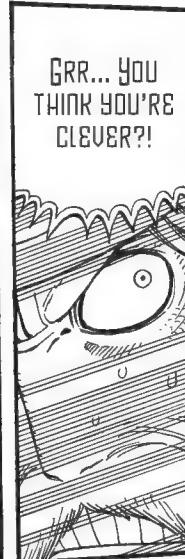
How tough is this thing?!



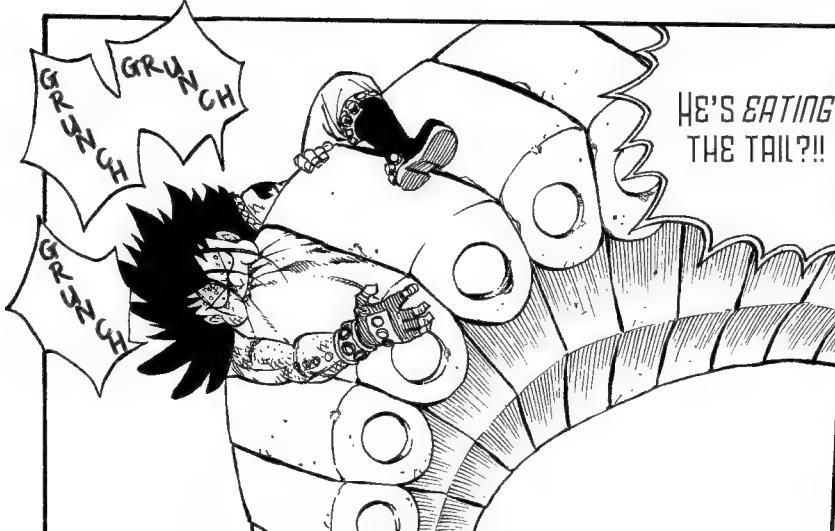
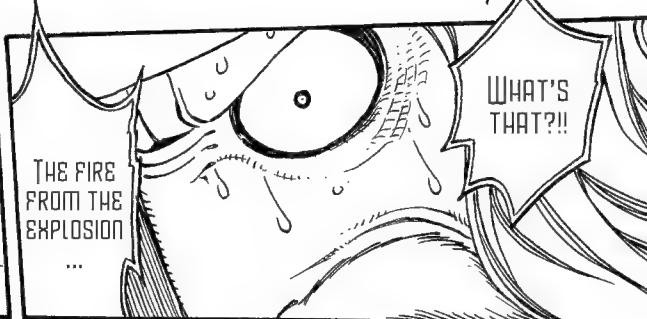
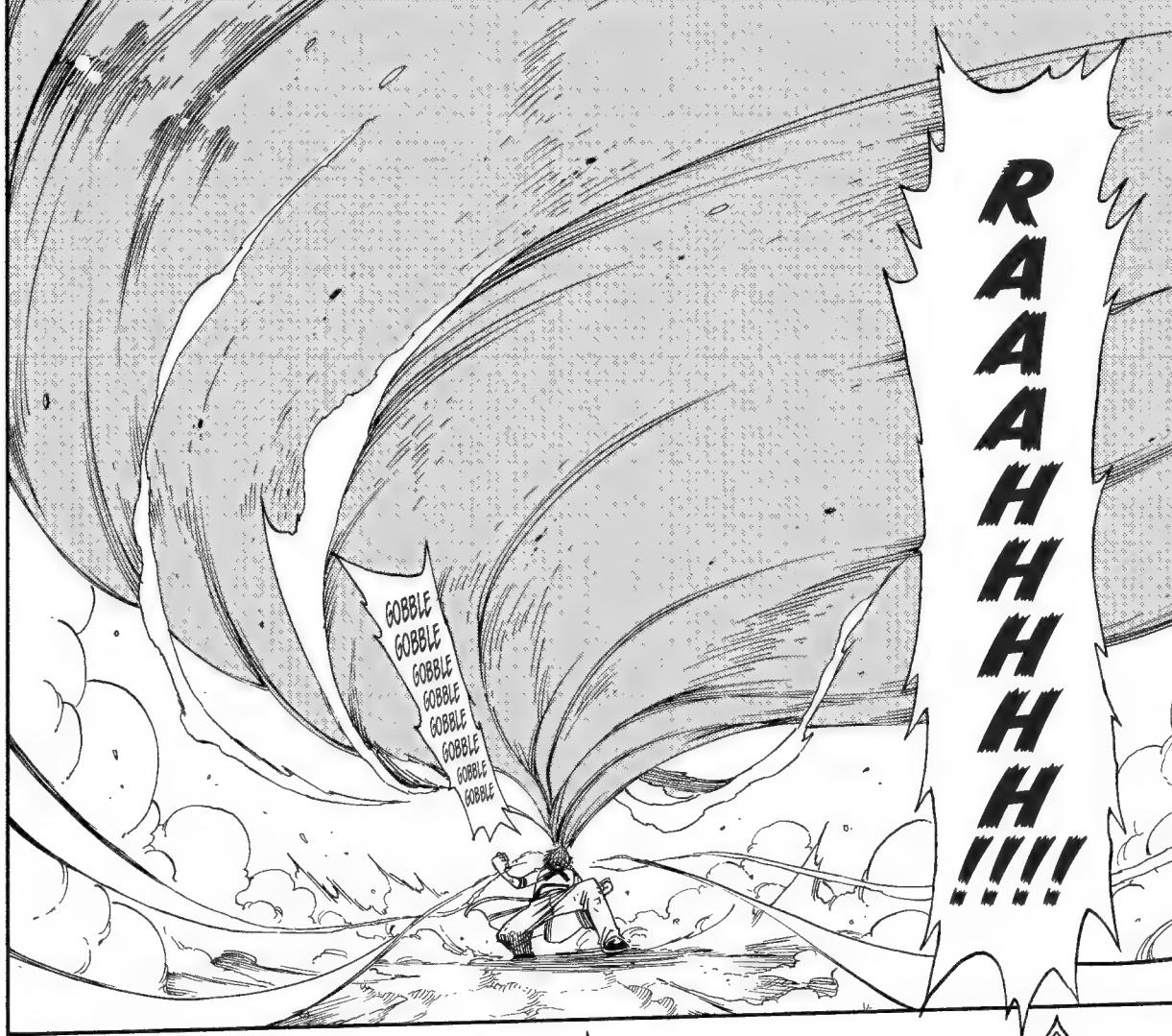


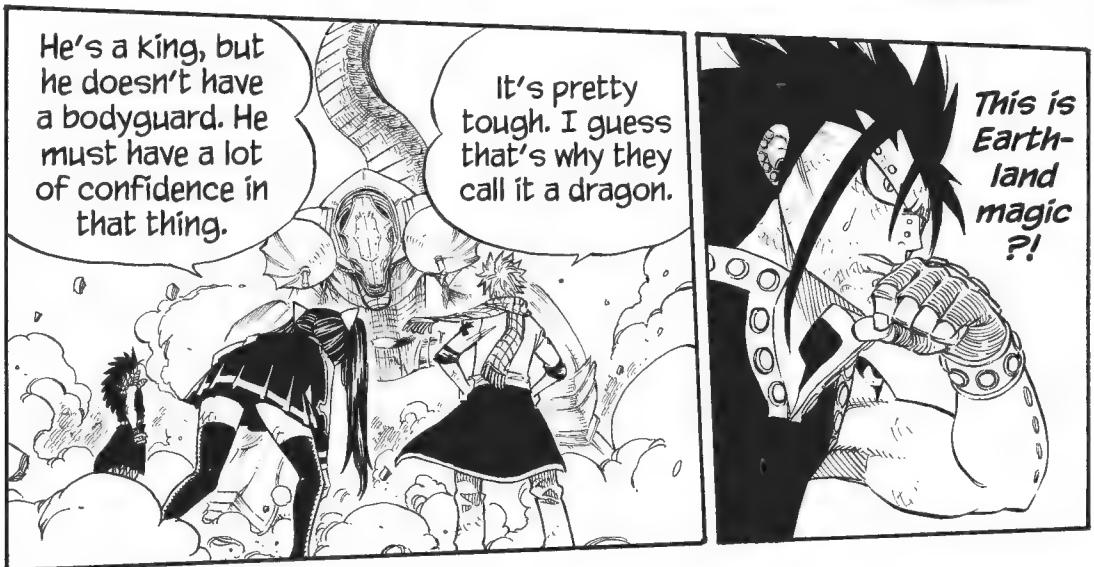






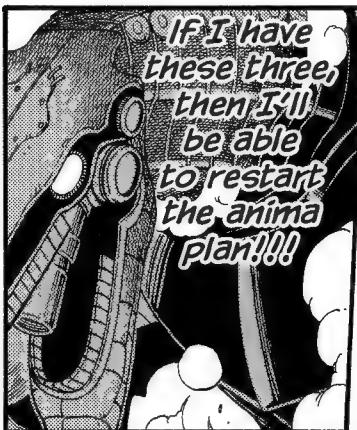






*But...*

*ooo*



WITH THE  
POWER  
OF THE  
DROMA  
Anim  
BLACK  
HEAVEN

!!!!

FIRST,  
I'LL ROB  
ALL  
THREE  
OF YOU  
OF THE  
WILL TO  
FIGHT

!!!!

GNOOO





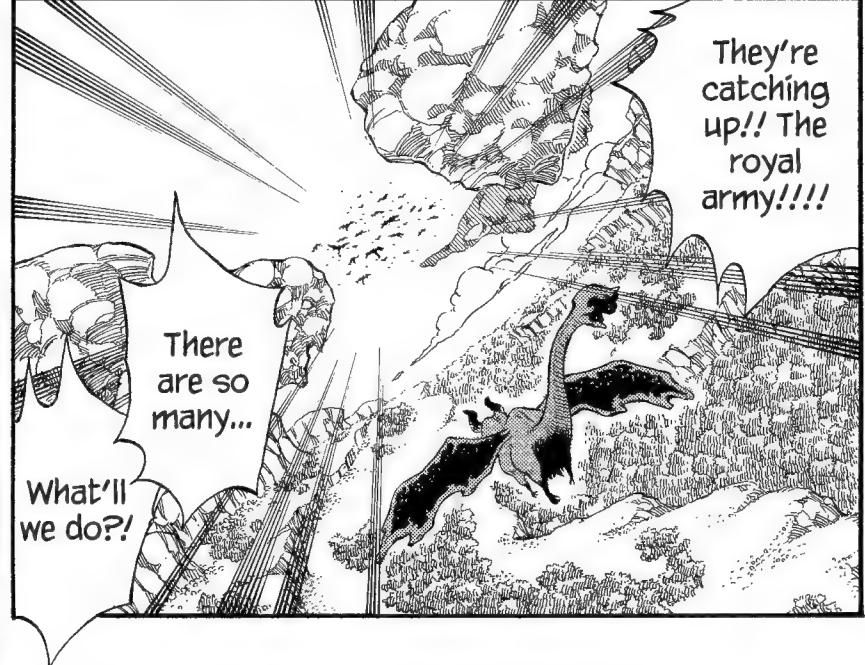


And to complete it,  
I'll need your strength.

It's my final job.

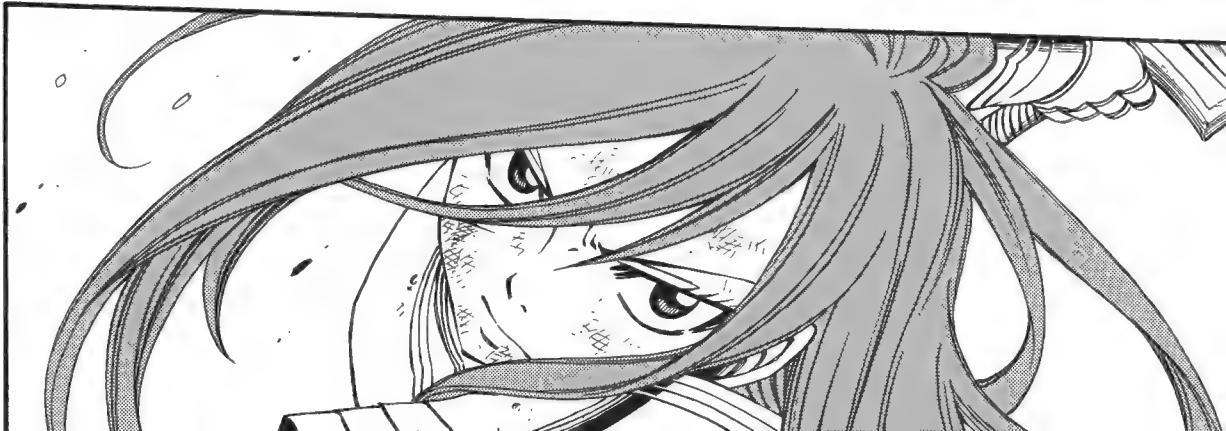


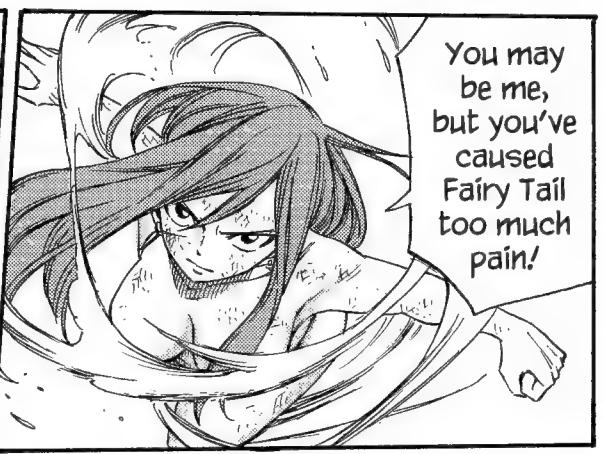
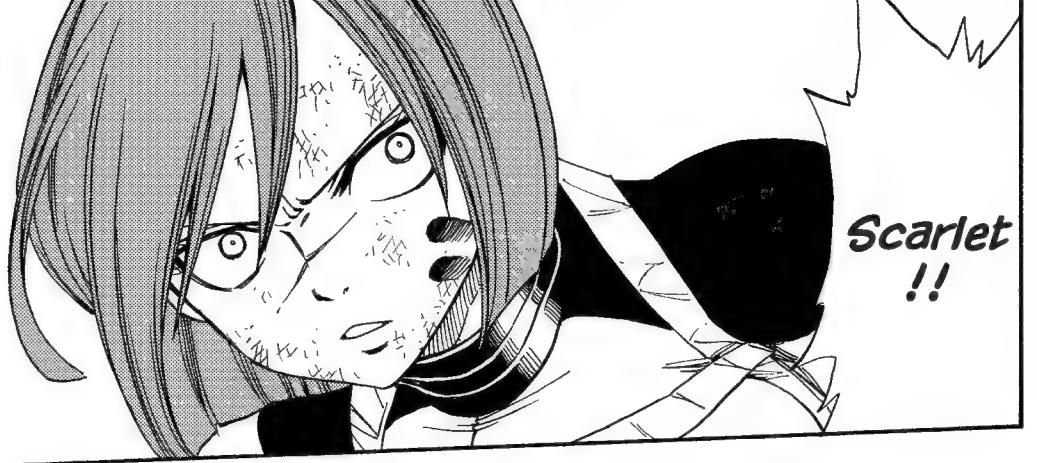
The only thing we *can* do is keep going!! If we don't, the Exceed will be wiped out!!!













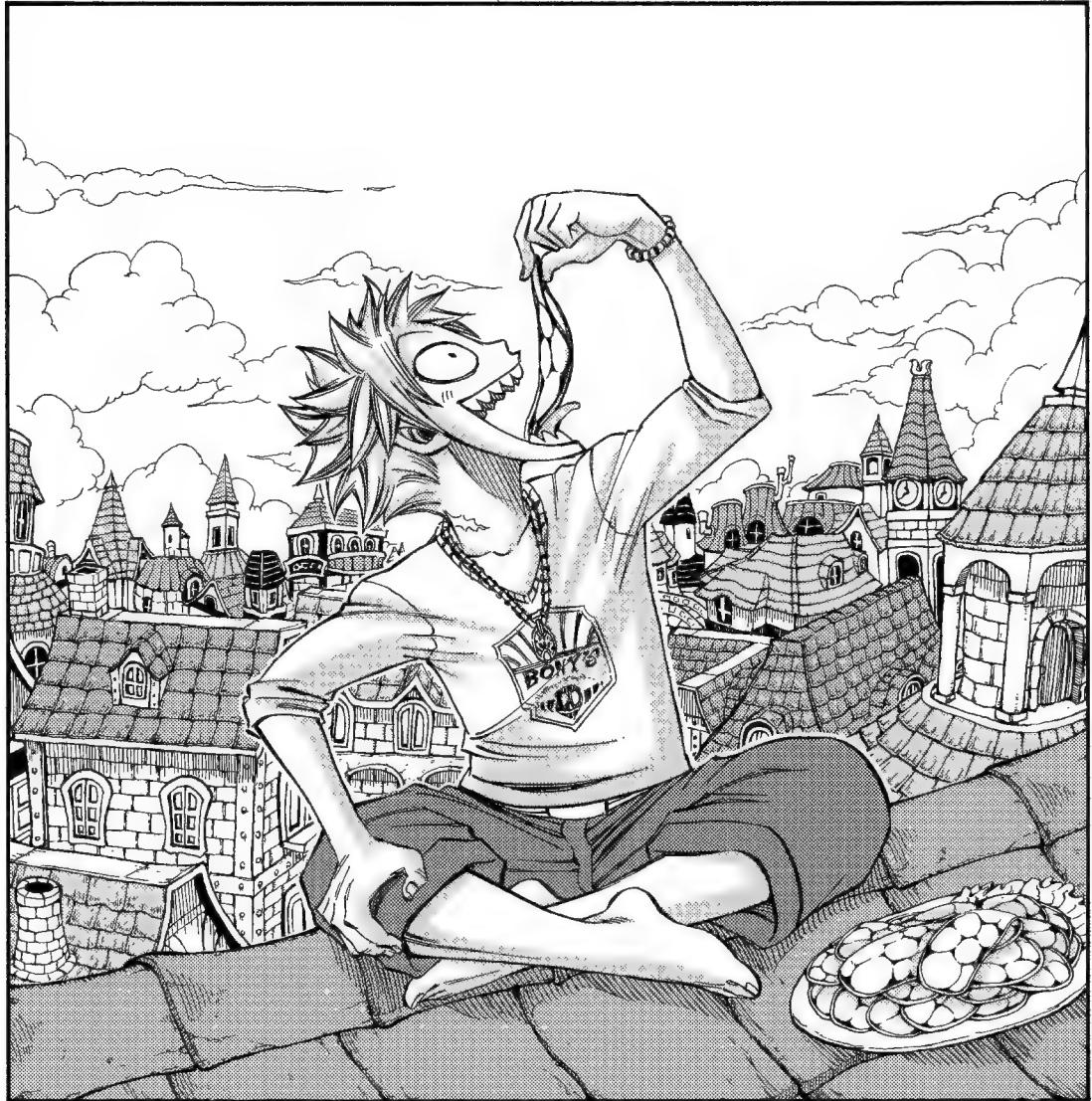
This fight  
won't end  
until one  
of us is  
gone!!!!

SHAKE IT!

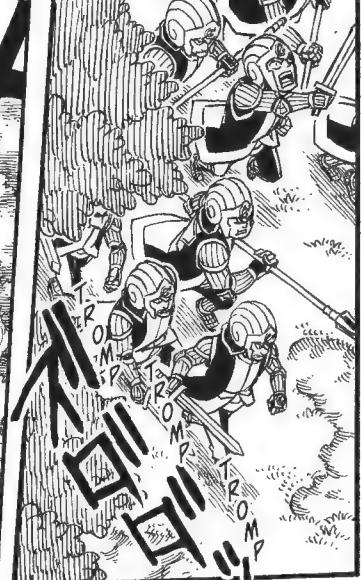
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 192: Won't Run Anymore







Why are they  
only aiming  
at Happy and  
Carla?!

What's  
with  
this?!

VWEE  
E!!  
!!!

WAA!!

We've turned  
most of the  
Exceed who tried  
to escape into  
lacrima!

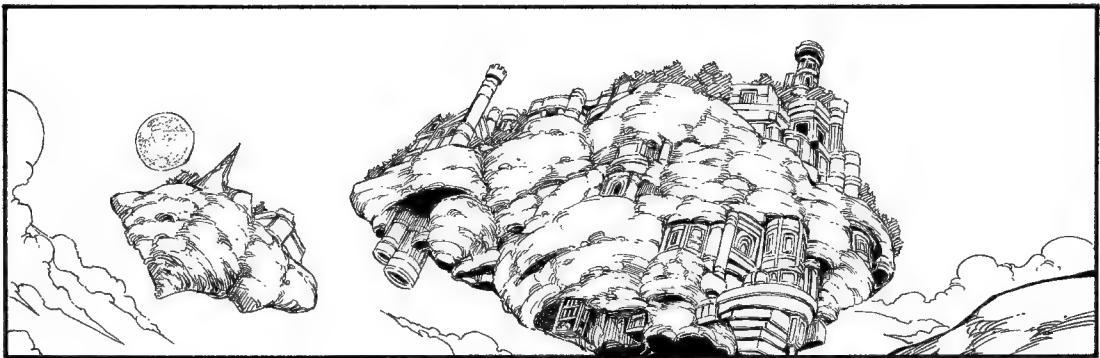
Why  
would  
we do  
that?!

E+..  
WKAHA

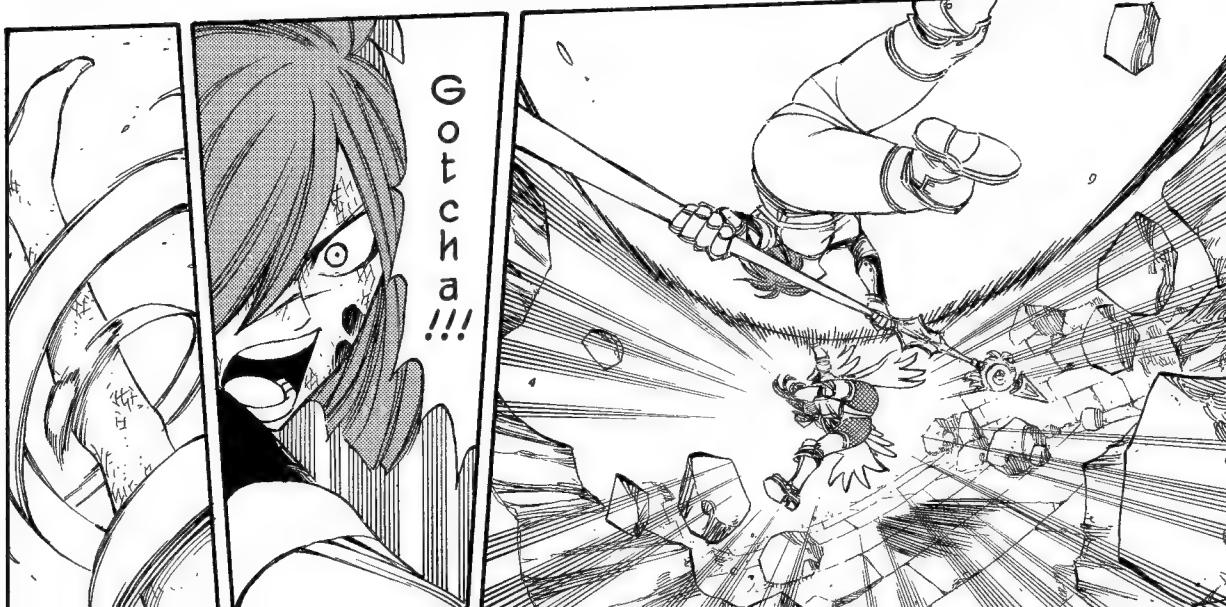
So stop  
struggling  
and become  
magic for the  
Kingdom!!

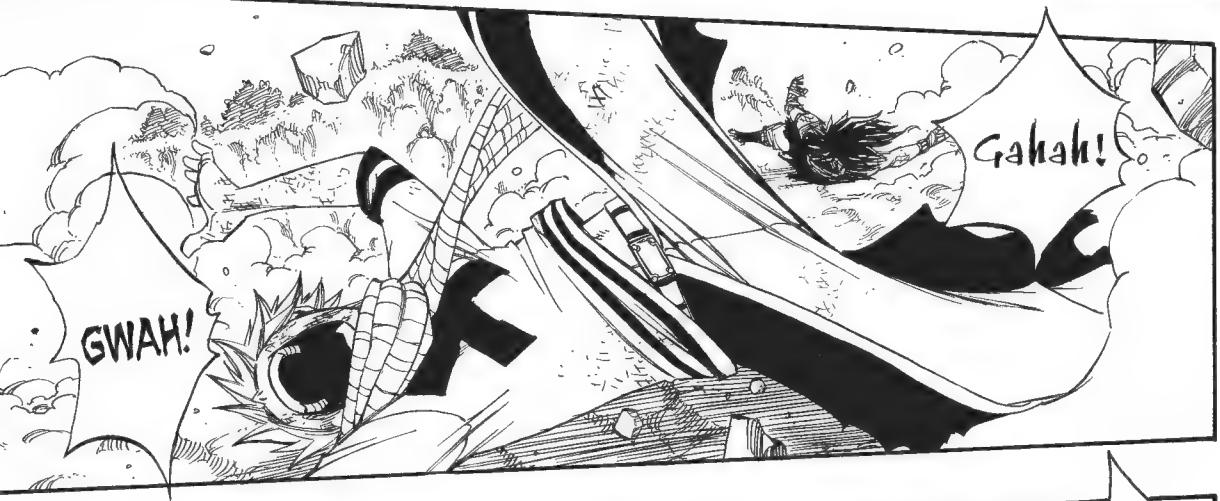
Those two  
are the only  
ones left!!

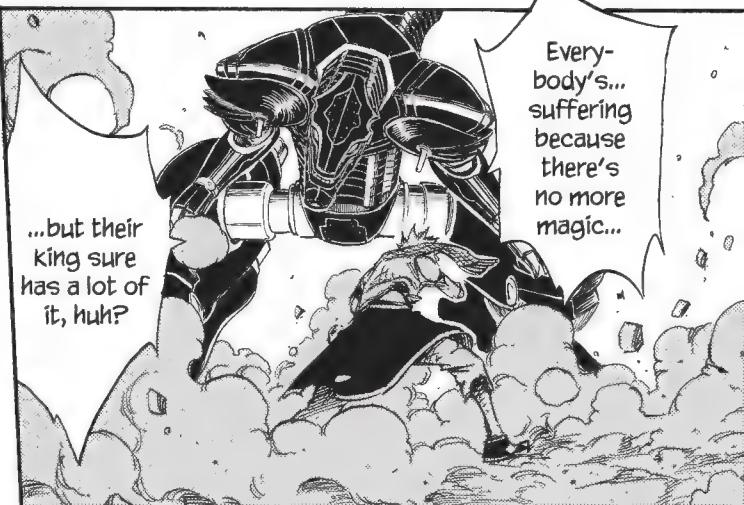
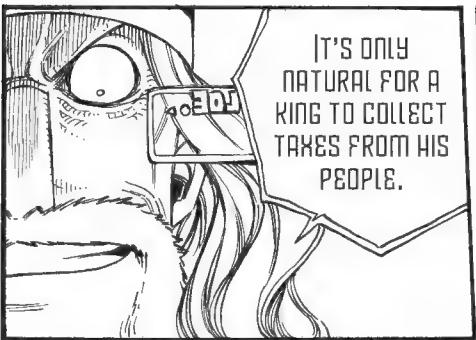












**THAT IS  
WHY IT IS  
FORBIDDEN!!!!  
ONCE IT IS  
UNLEASHED,  
IT MUST BE  
VICTORIOUS!!!!**

**FOR THE  
SAKE OF  
THE ENTIRE  
WORLD!!!!**

**THE DROMA  
ANIM IS THE  
ULTIMATE  
MAGICAL  
WEAPON,  
CONTINUALLY  
DRAINING THE  
ENTIRE WORLD  
OF MAGIC!!!**

I don't  
know  
about the  
"world"...

We  
entered  
our guild  
to help  
people  
live.

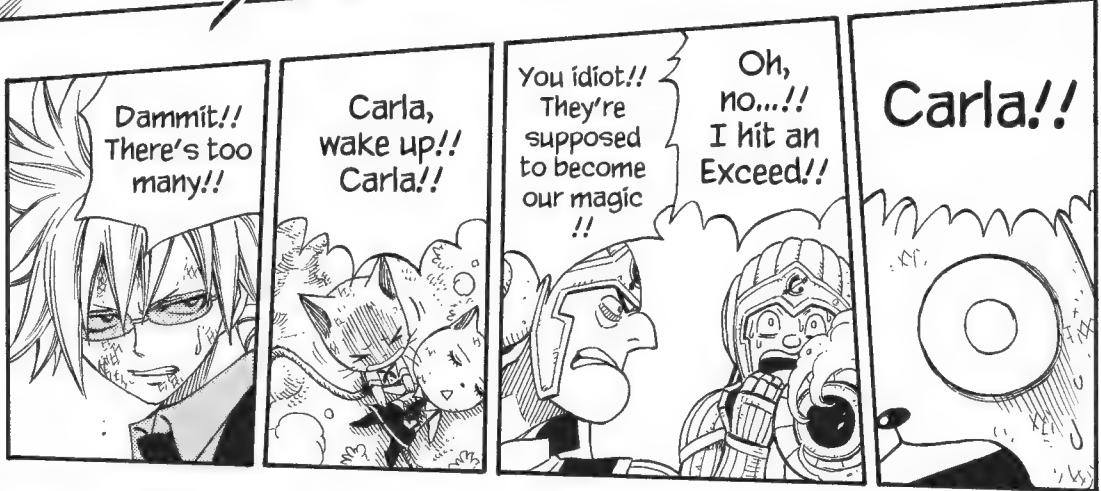
You got  
some guts  
saying that  
after stealing  
magic from  
everybody!

Give me  
a break!

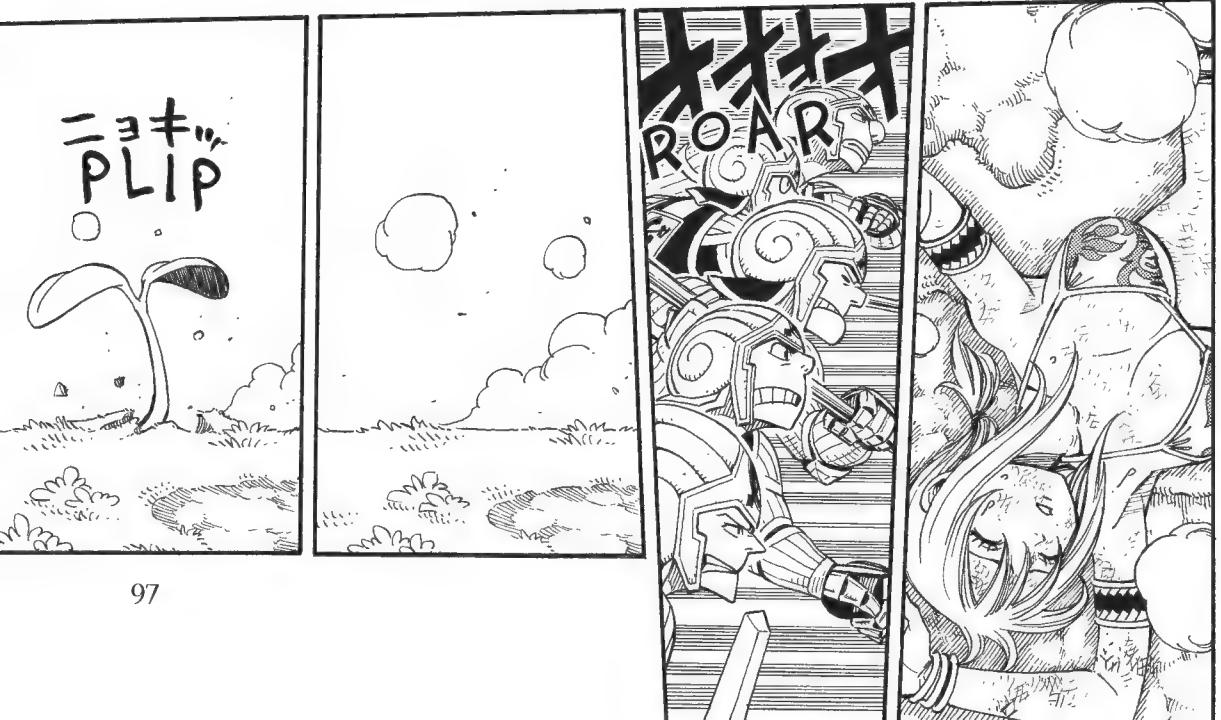
**We're  
gonna  
take you  
down!!!!**

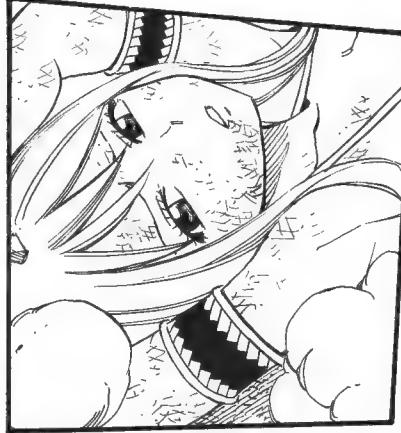
**But for  
everybody  
living in  
it...**













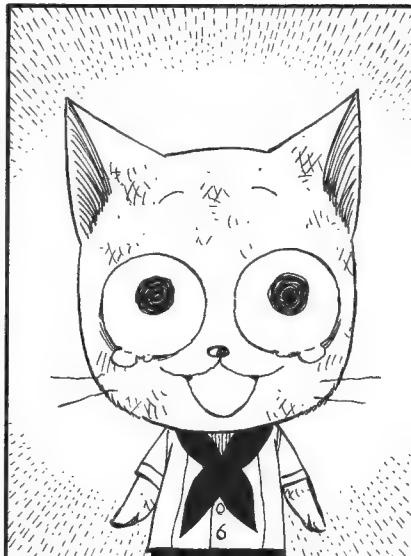
# Fairy Tail ?!

We can't  
keep  
running  
forever  
!!!

Let's  
do it!

So we're  
going to  
show you  
the power of  
camaraderie  
!!!

Yeah  
!!!



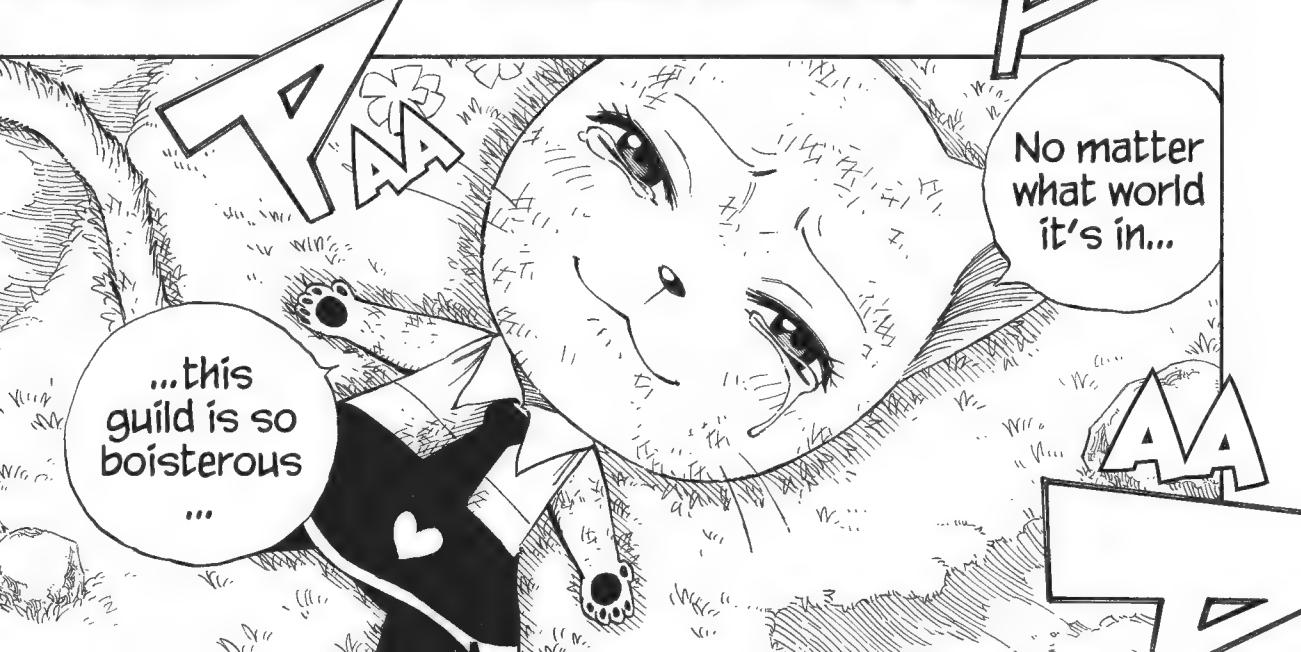
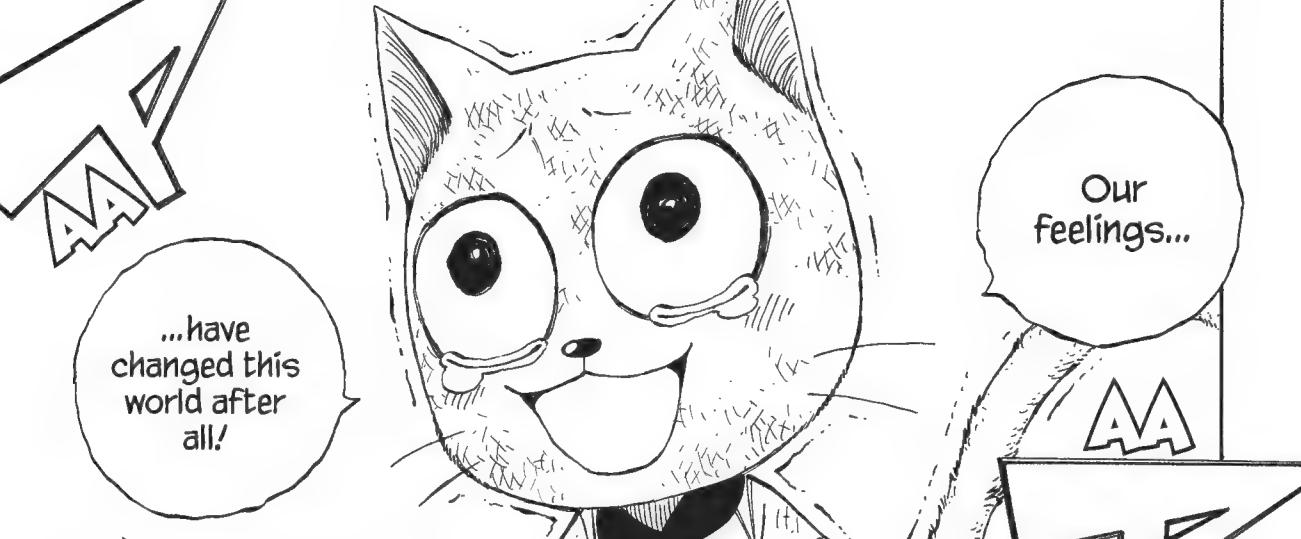
# FAIRY TAIL

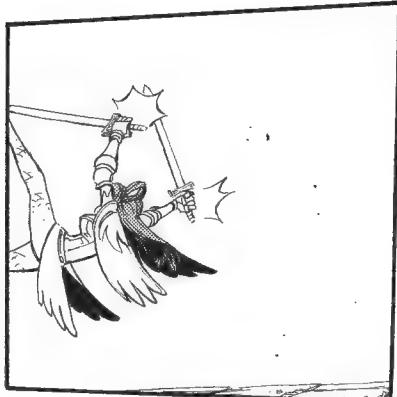
フェアリーテイル

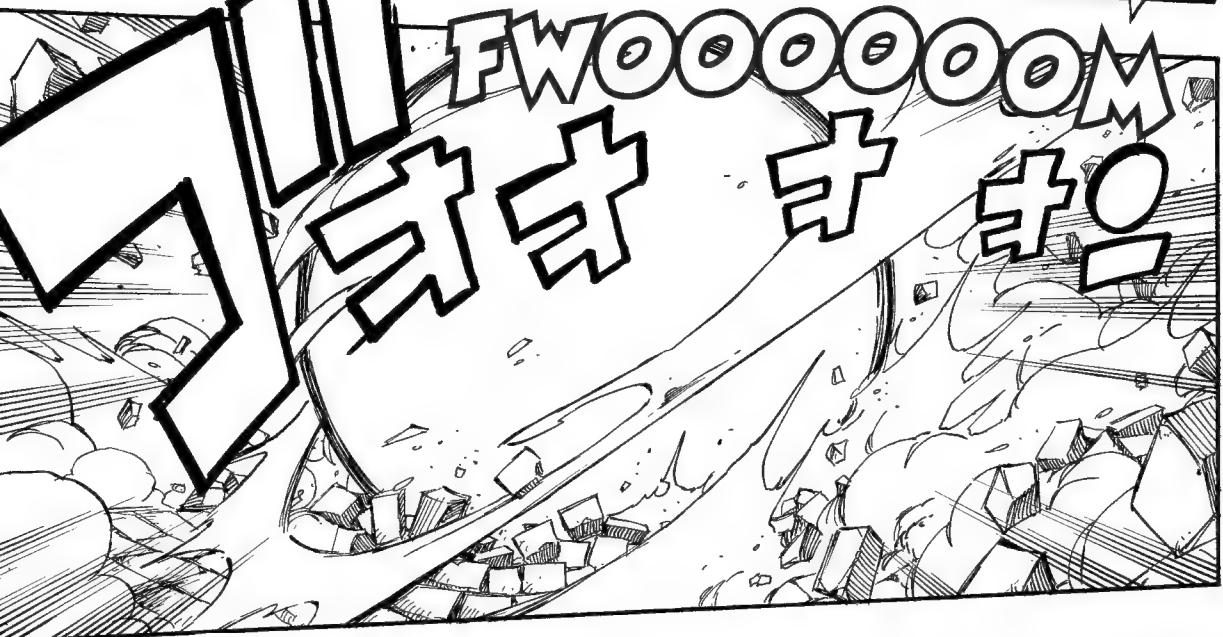
## Chapter 193: To Be Alive

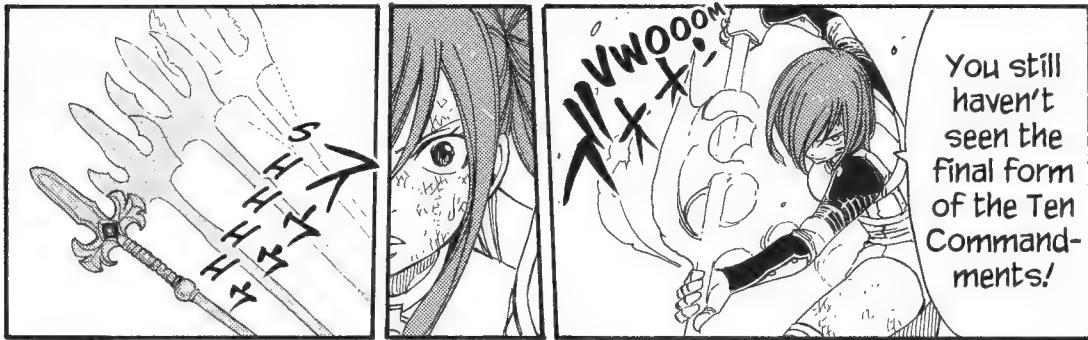


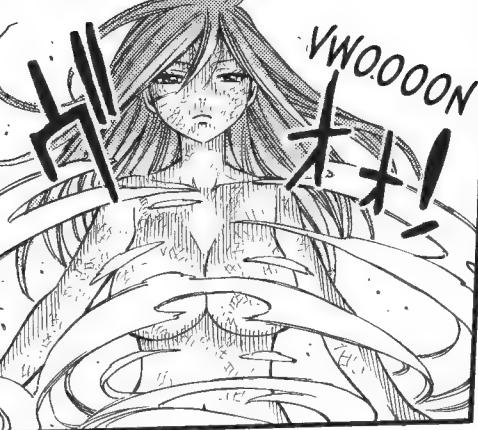








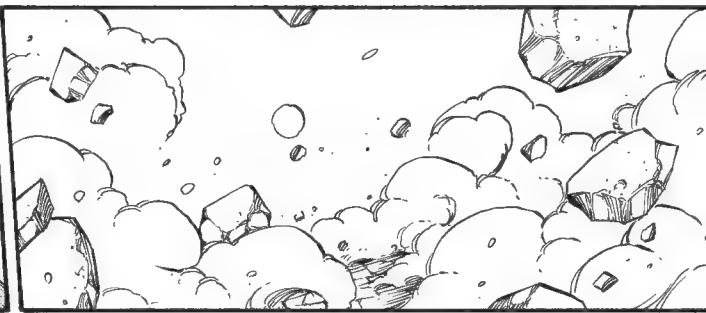
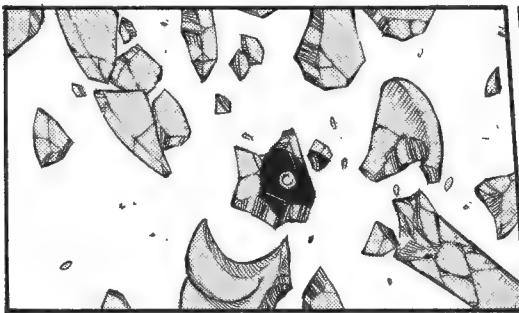




Rrooaah  
!!!



Rrooaah  
!!!

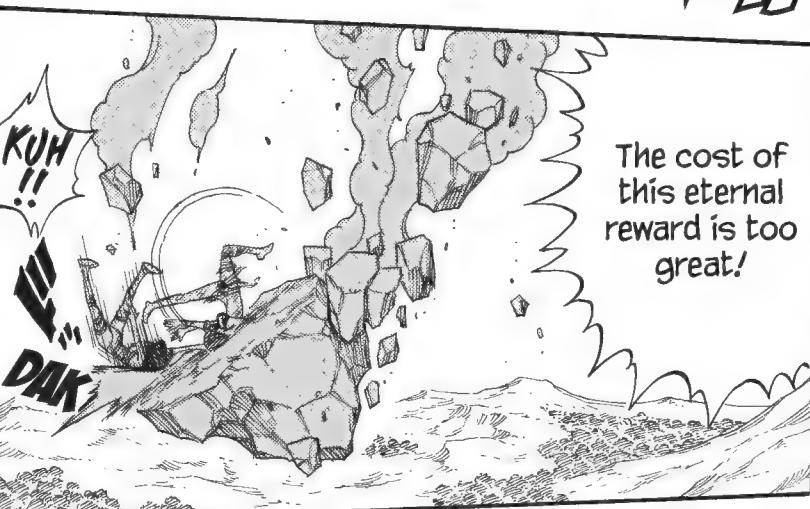






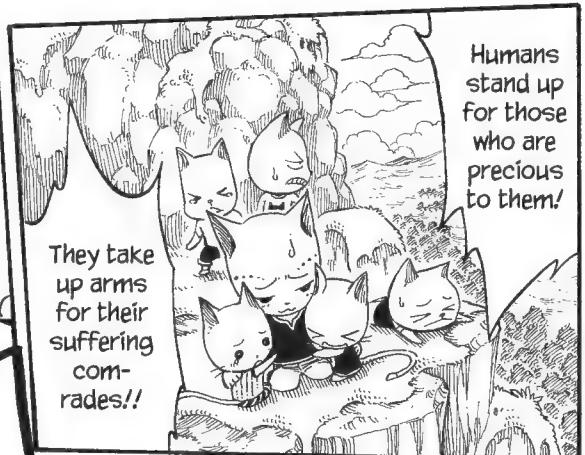
I  
can't  
be de-  
Feated  
!!!

The  
reward is  
eternal  
magic  
!!!





What  
humans  
do is  
love  
!!!!





**People are  
what's  
important!!!!**

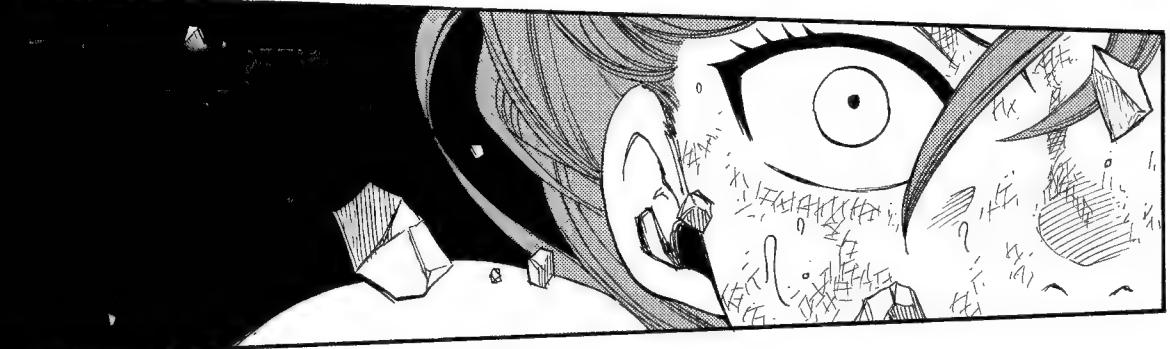


Even  
without  
magic,  
we're still  
alive!!!!

We're  
alive  
now,  
this  
instant

Right  
???

...



But people  
don't die  
from that!!!

Look at  
us!!!! We  
used up all  
our magic  
a long time  
ago!!!!

That's  
what it  
means to  
be alive  
!!!

There  
still is  
strength  
!!!!

People  
overcome  
stuff like  
weakness  
and fear!!

W  
H  
S  
H  
O  
H  
X

W  
H  
S  
H  
O  
H  
X

**So I  
know  
you have  
the same  
loving  
heart as  
well!!!**

**Listen  
to me,  
Erza!!!!**

**You have  
the same  
vices and  
weaknesses  
inside you  
that I have  
!!!!**

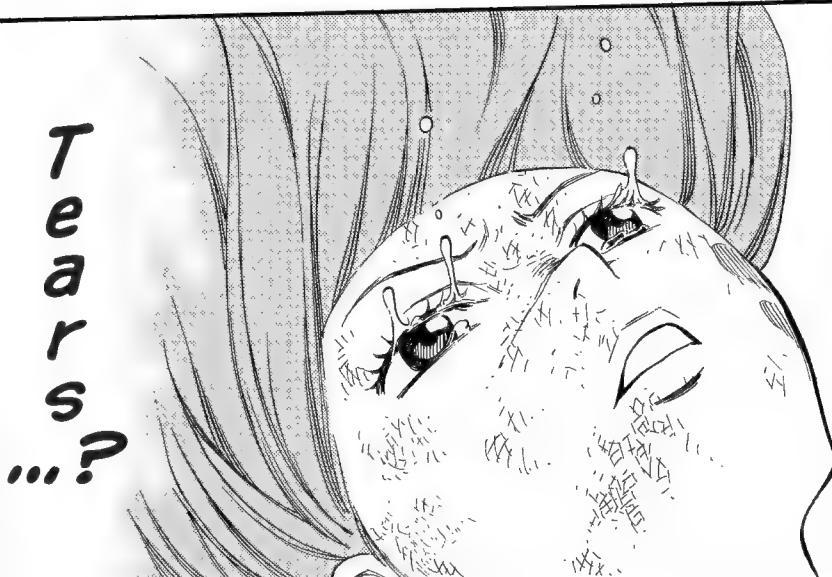
**What  
...?**

**Those  
voices tell  
the truth  
!!!!**

**This is  
Erza...**

**...This is  
me?**

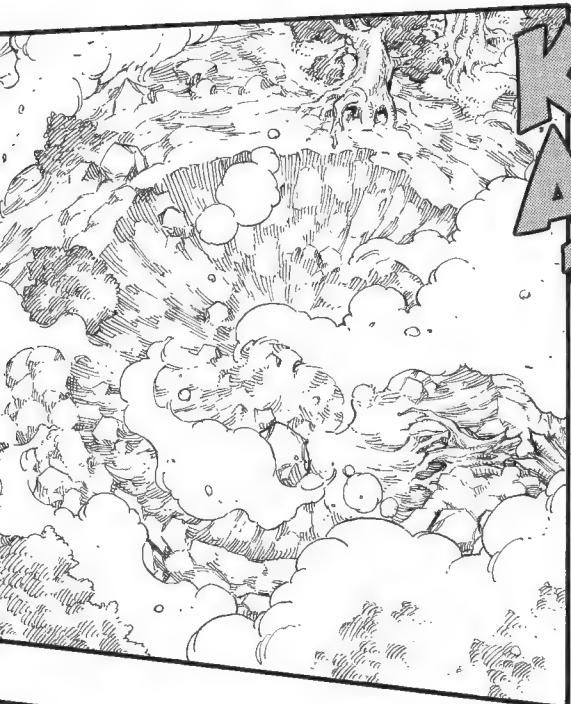
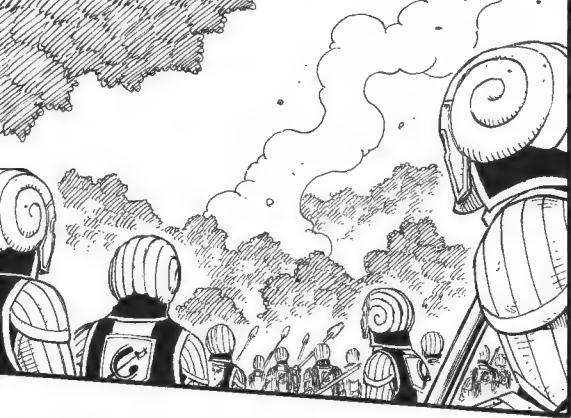
**Listen  
closely  
to the  
voices of  
the living  
!!!!**

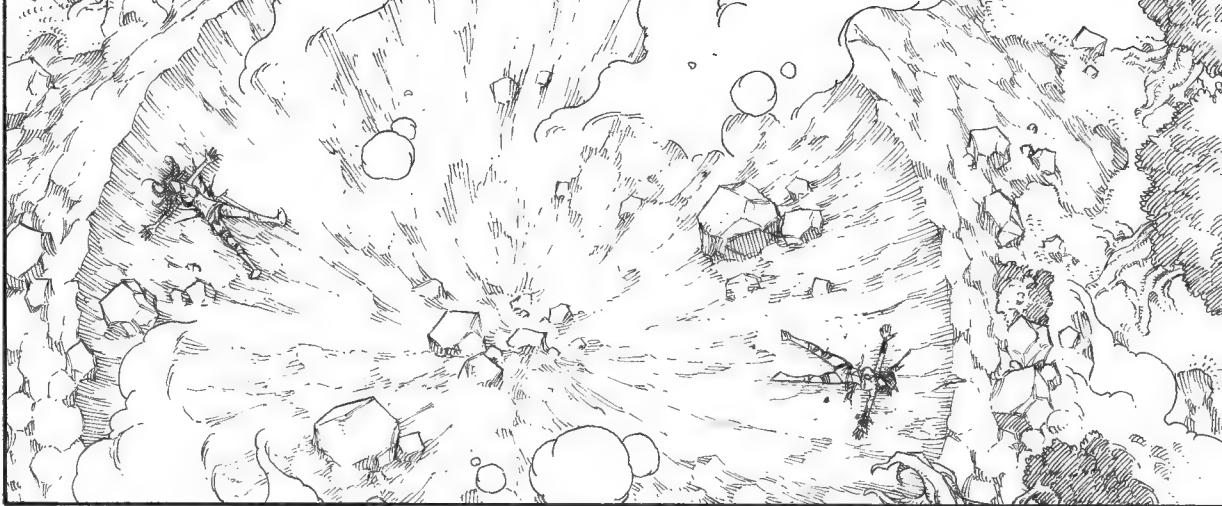


**Tear s  
...?**

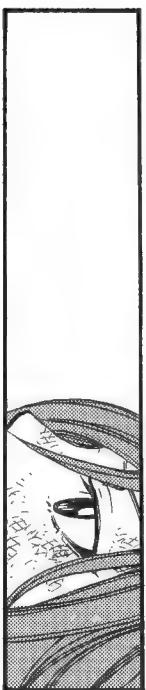


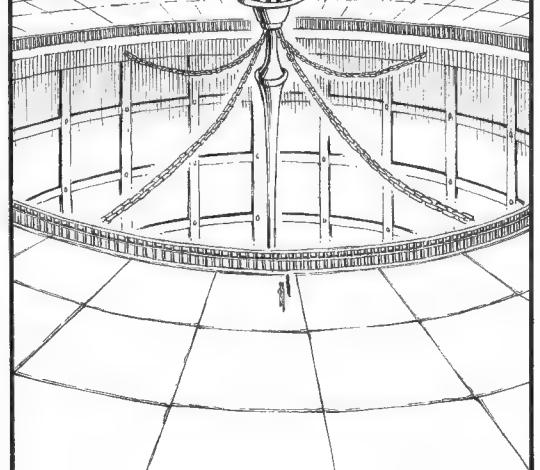
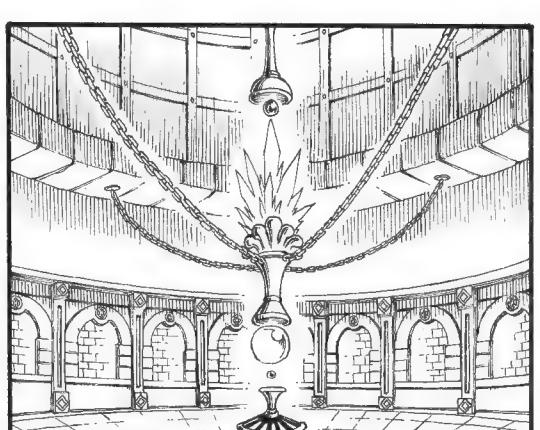
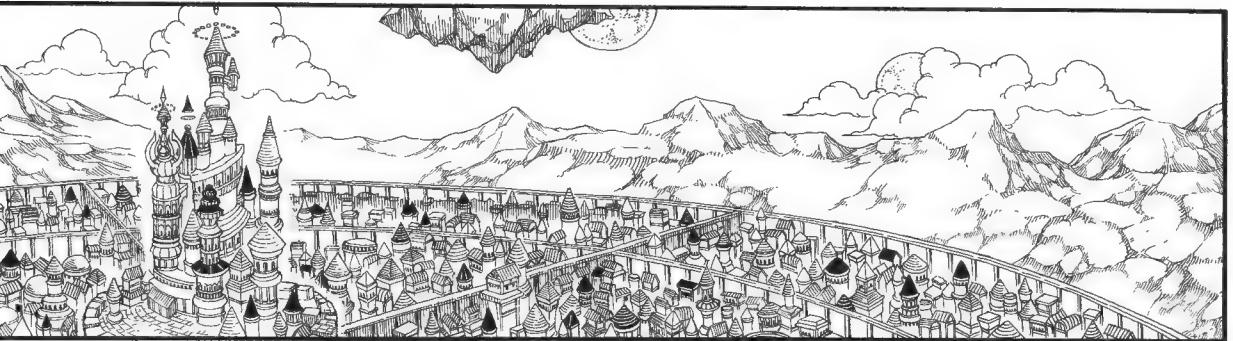
You're  
not  
alone  
!!!!

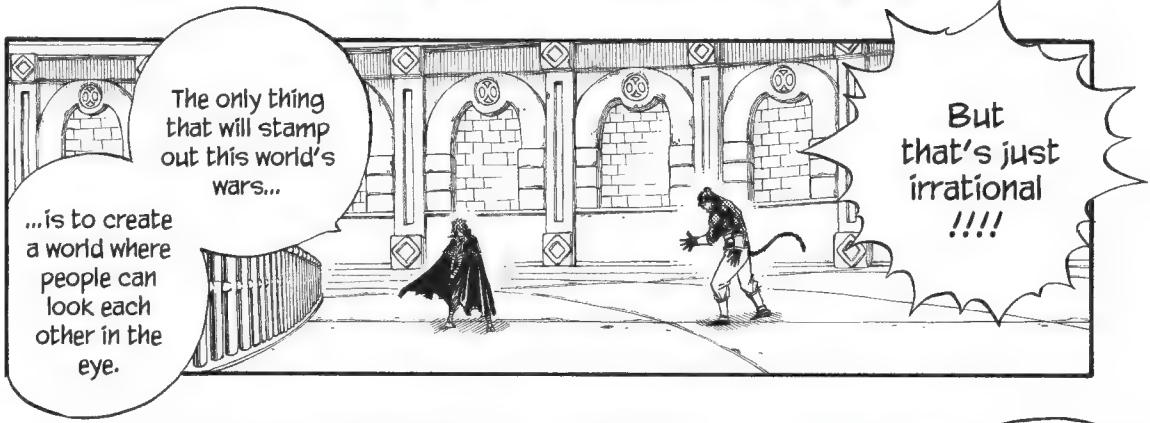




But...  
you're  
alive...  
right?









FAIRY TAIL

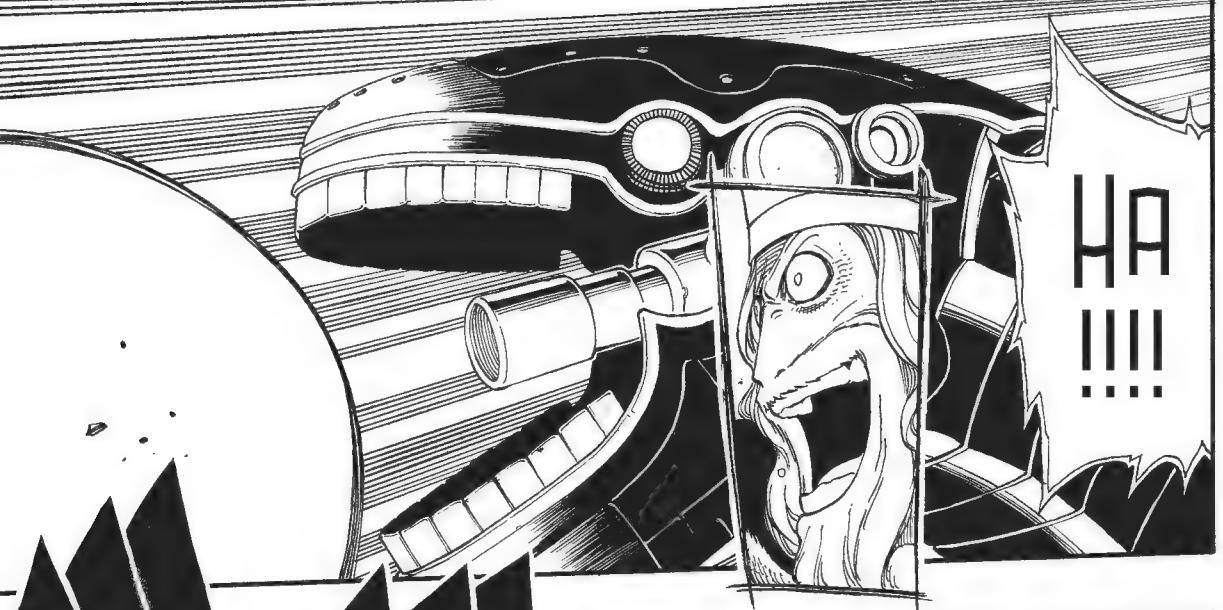


## Chapter 194: I'm Standing Right Here





FAIRY TAIL



Waah!

WHUMP

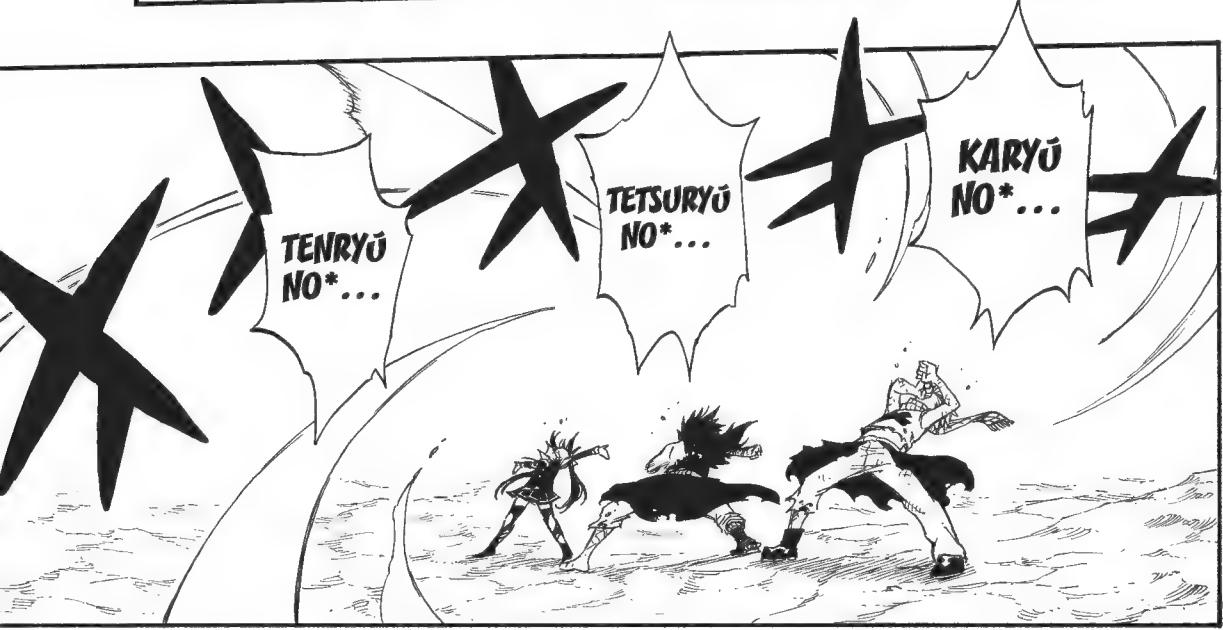
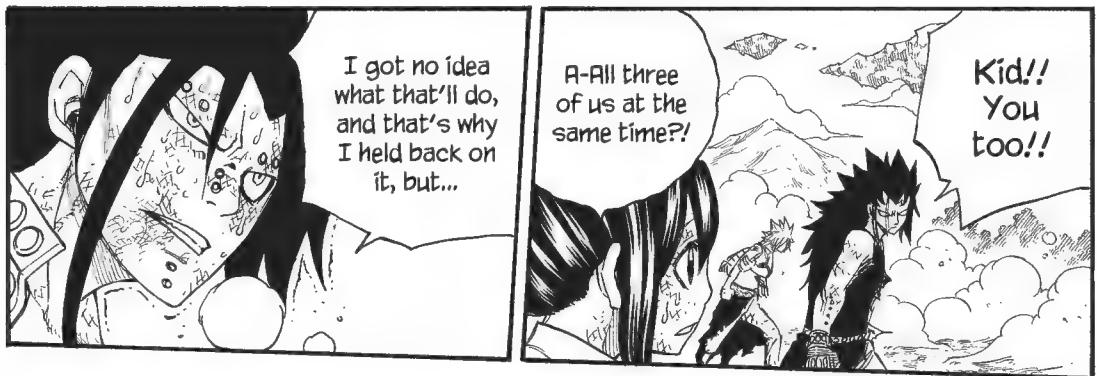
III  
SKRRRCH

III  
WHUDD

SKY!!! EARTH!!!!  
BRING FORTH  
MORE POWER  
FOR MY DROMA  
ANIM!!!!

GATHER  
MORE  
MAGIC!!!!

Salaman-  
der, your  
breath!!!!



\*Sky Dragon's...

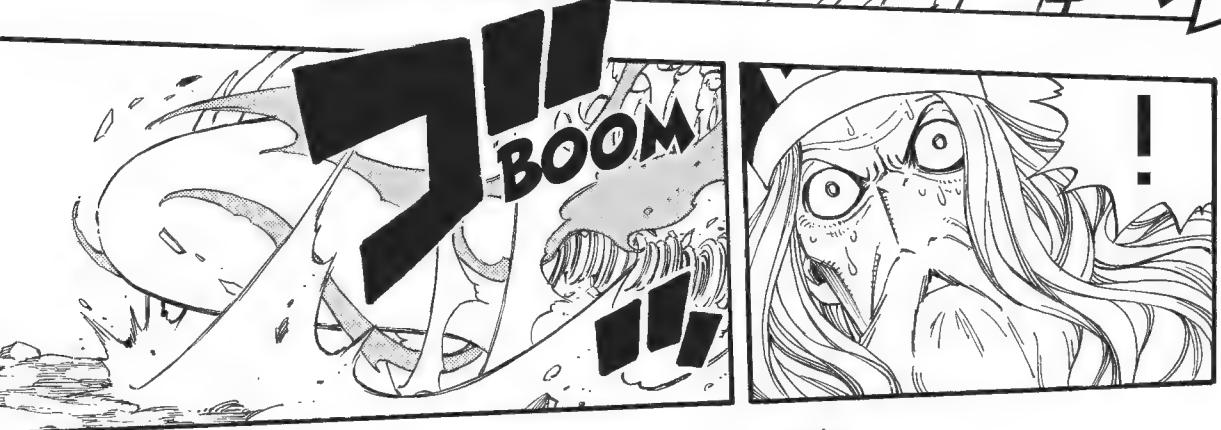
\*Iron Dragon's...

\*Fire Dragon's...

...  
**HōKō\***  
!!!!!!

**WOOOSH**

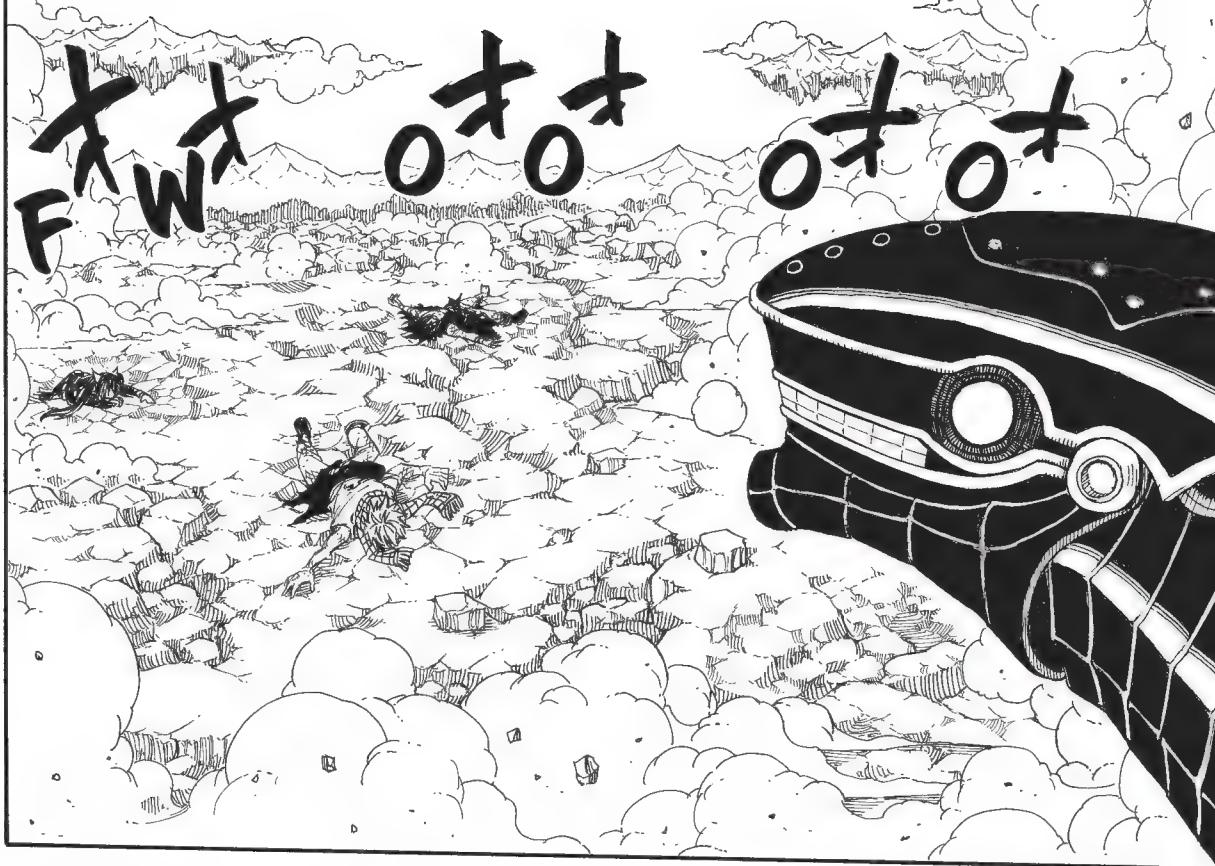


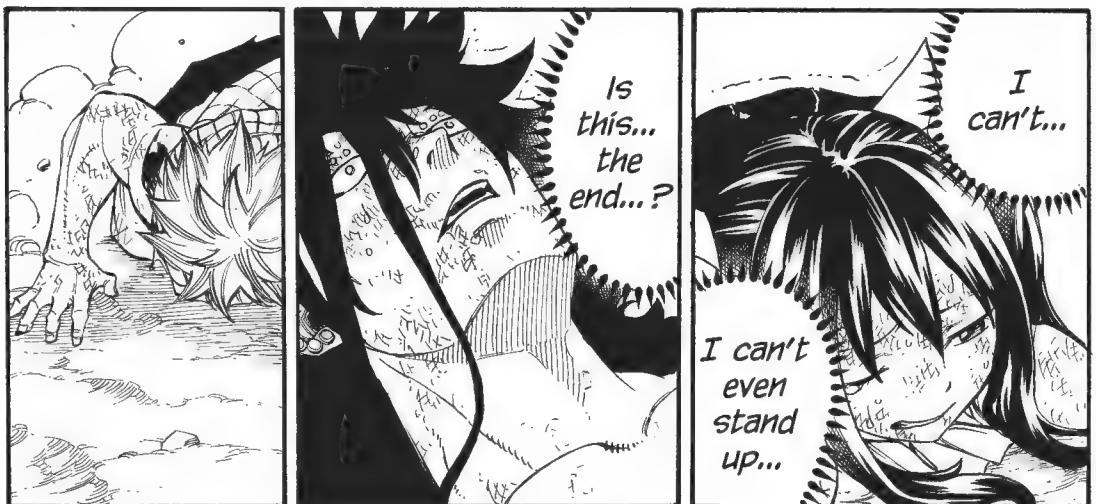
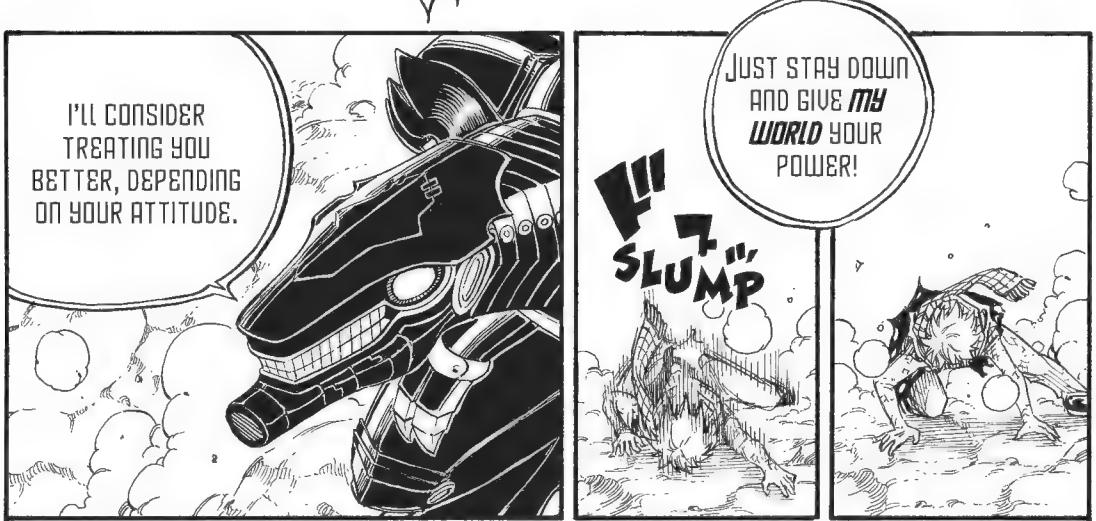


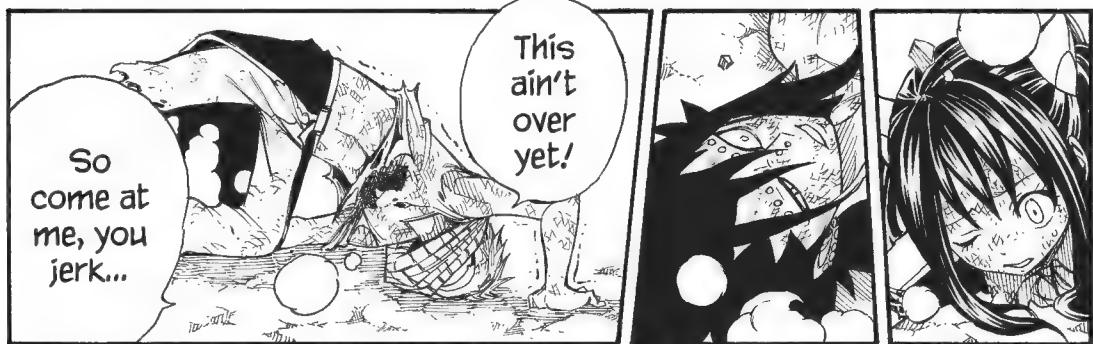


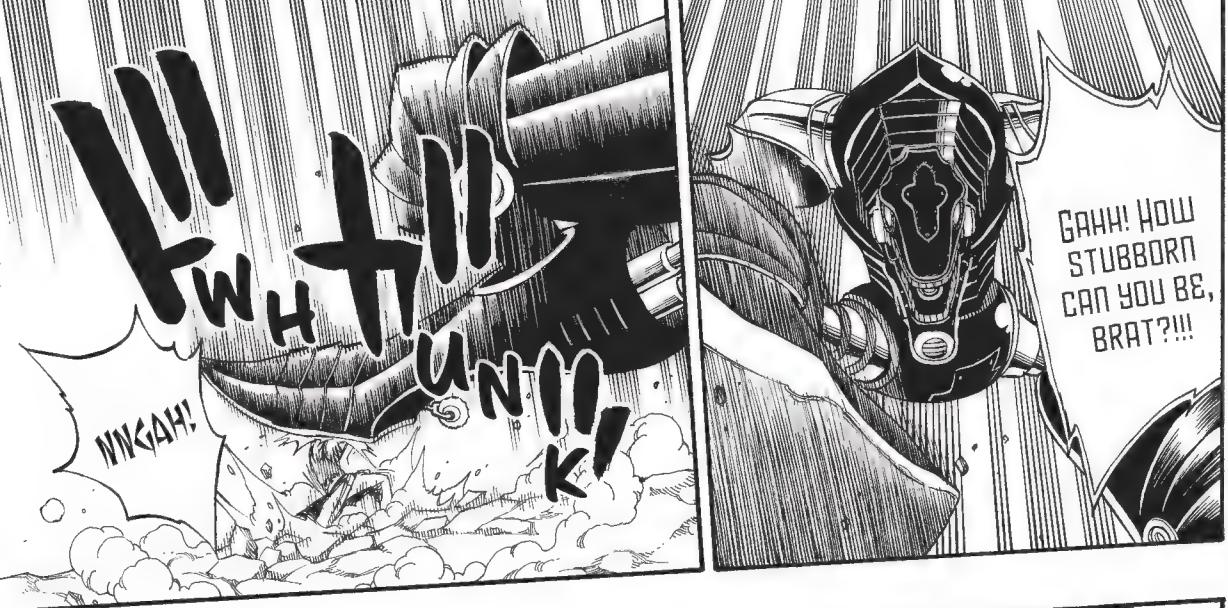














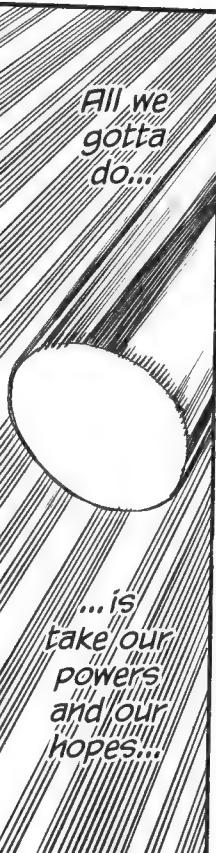


LEARN  
YOUR  
PLACE,  
YOU LITTLE  
BASTARDS

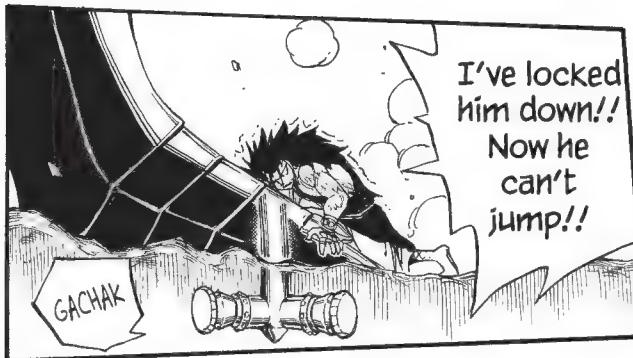
!!!!



JUST WHO  
DO YOU  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
DEALING  
WITH?!



...and  
connect  
'em  
together  
!!



**So  
do it  
!!!!**

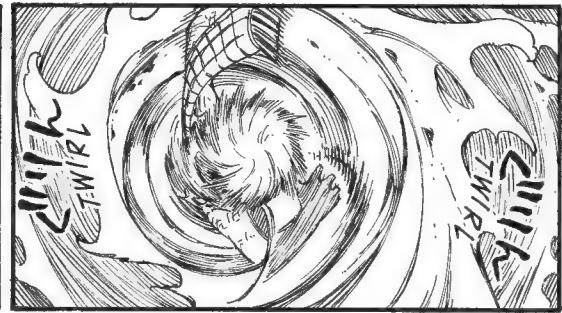
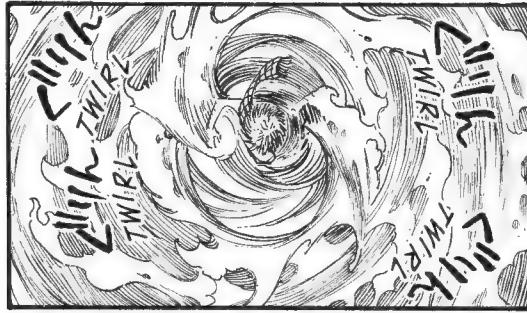
**You're  
the only  
one who  
can!!!!**





\*Sky Dragon's Roar





Waaa-  
aahhh  
!!

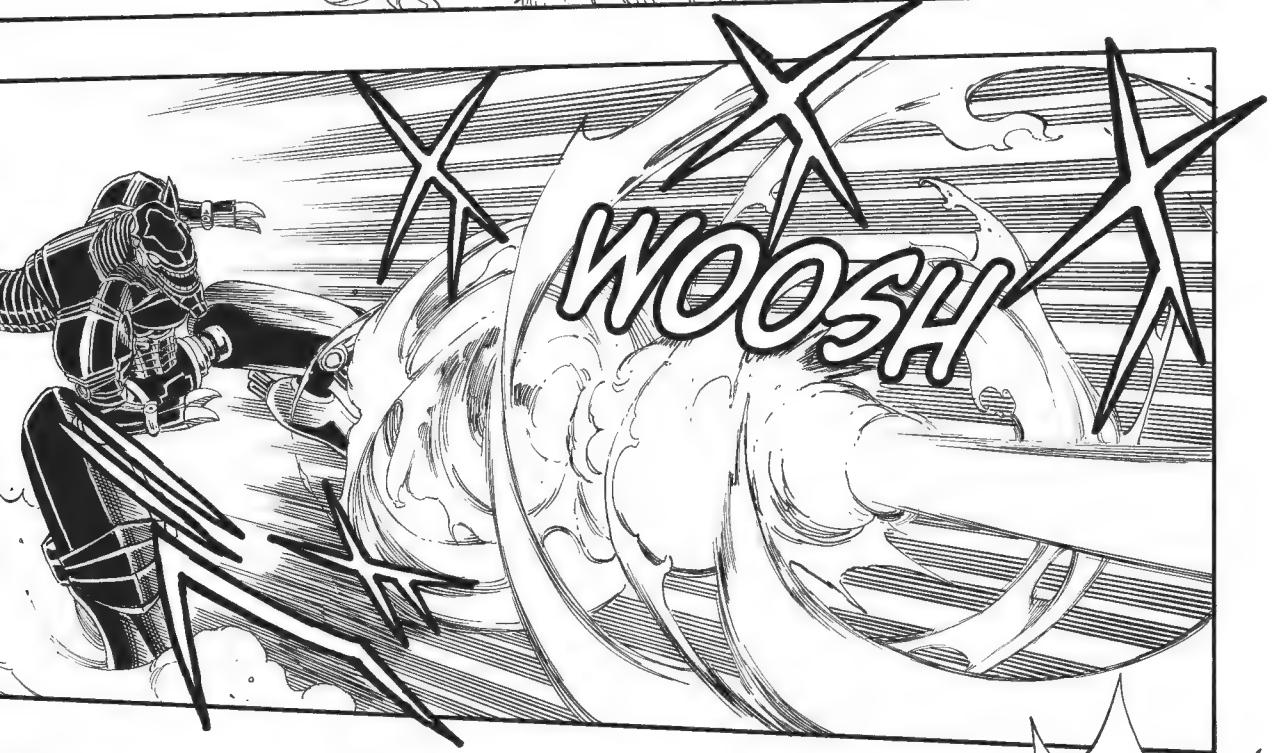
KARYŪ  
NO\* ...

Uwoo-  
ohhhh  
!!

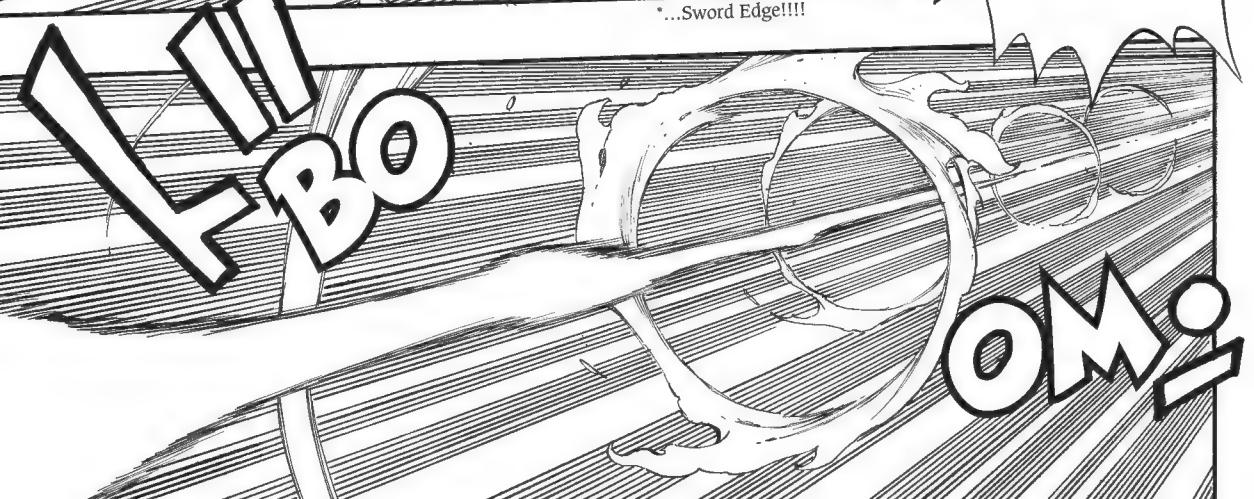
\*Fire Dragon's...

...some  
kind of  
dream...?

Is this...



\*...Sword Edge!!!!



**WAKOON**

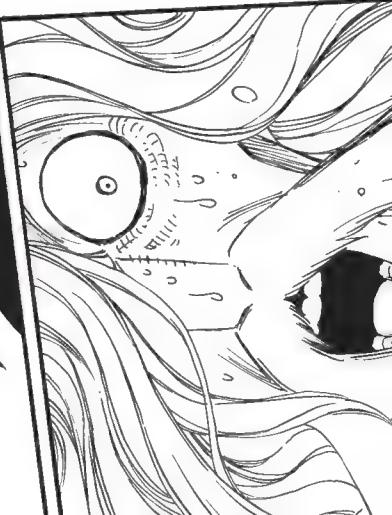
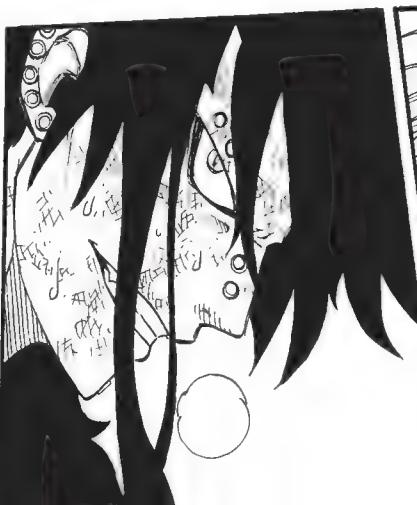
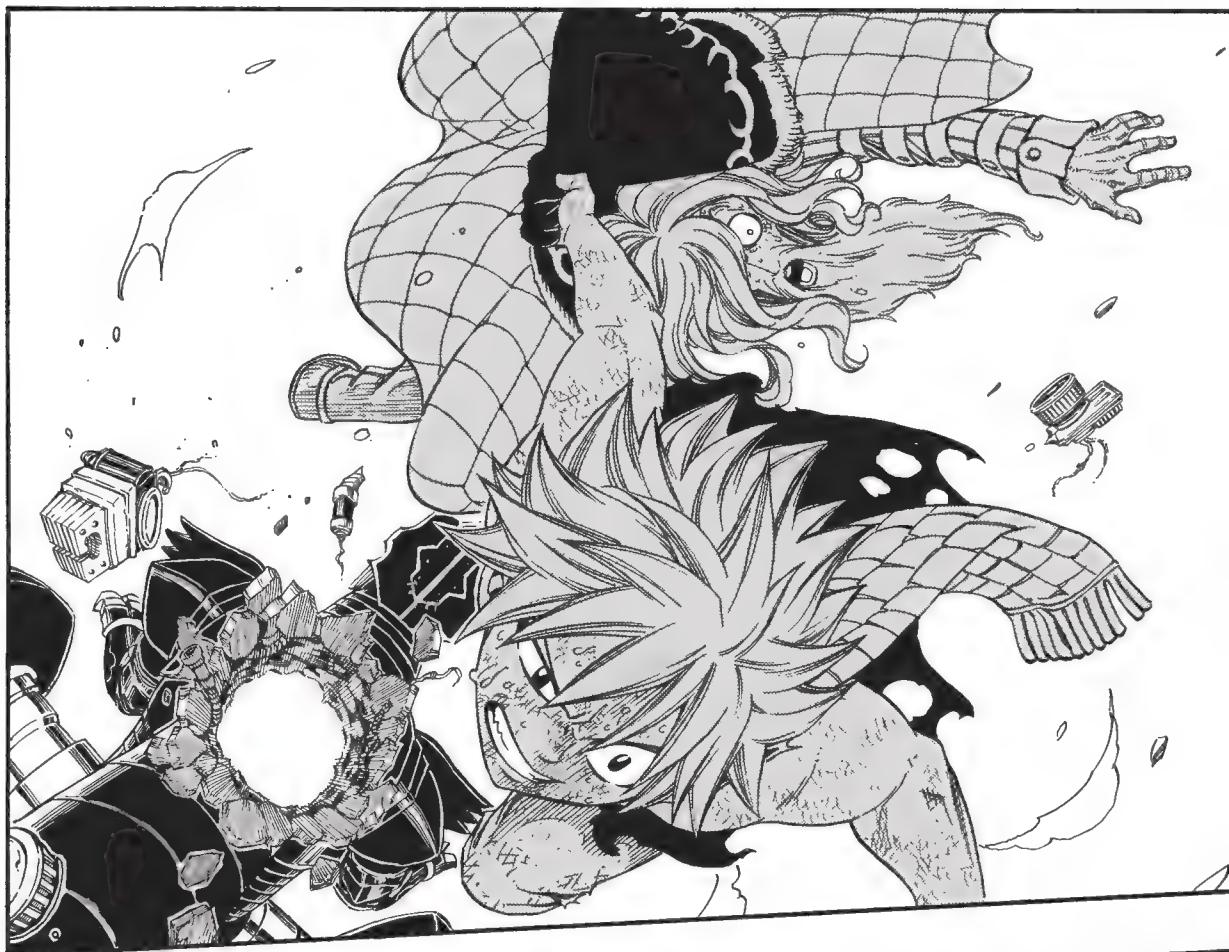
**WAKOON**

**WAKOON**

**WAKOON**

**WAKOON**

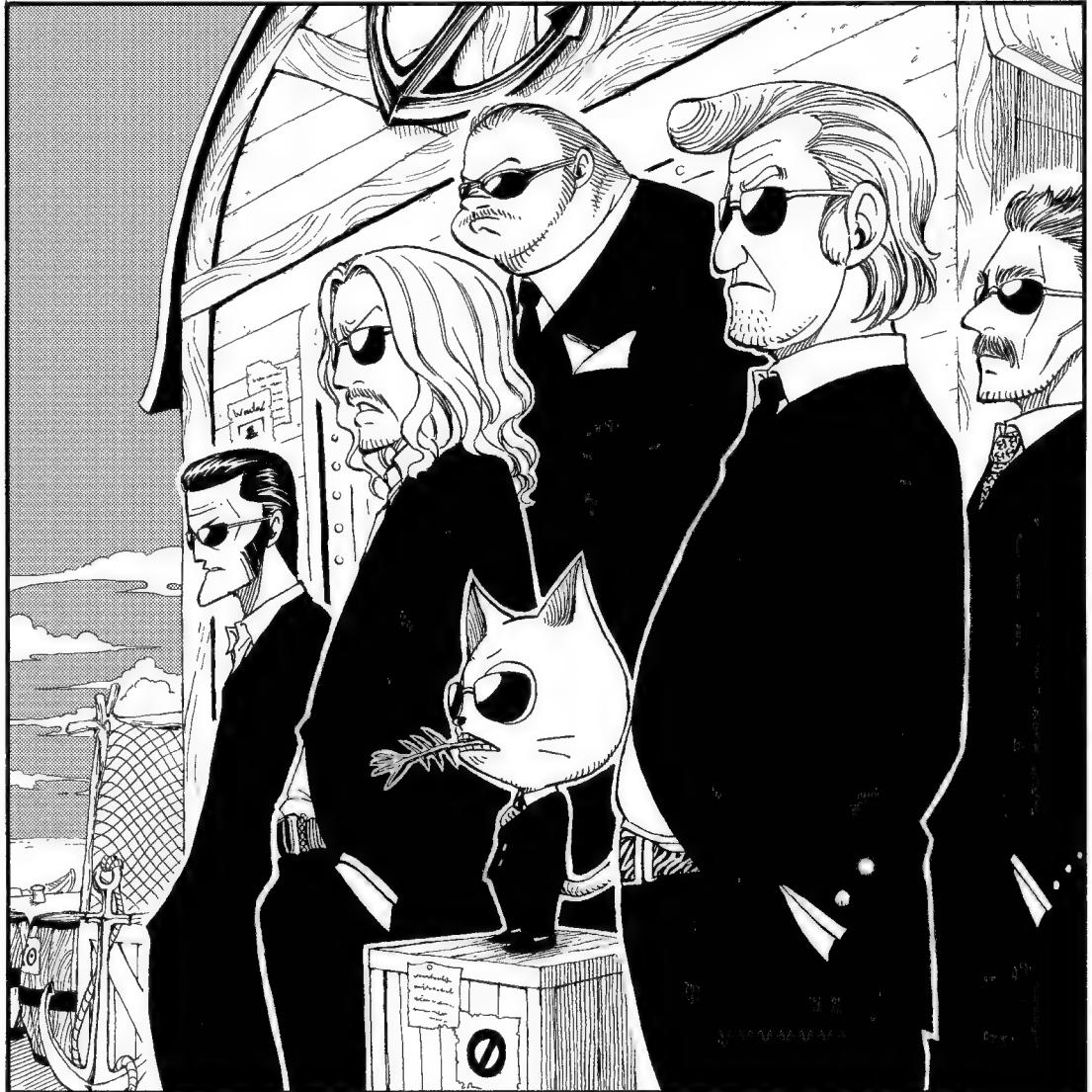


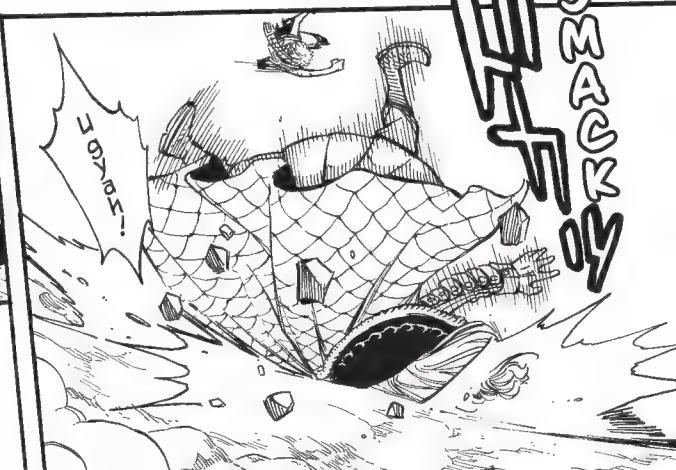
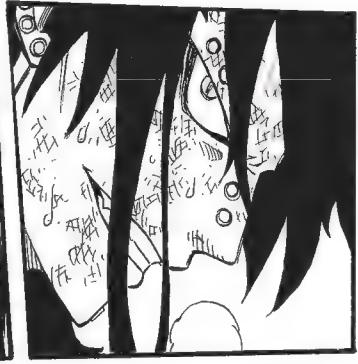
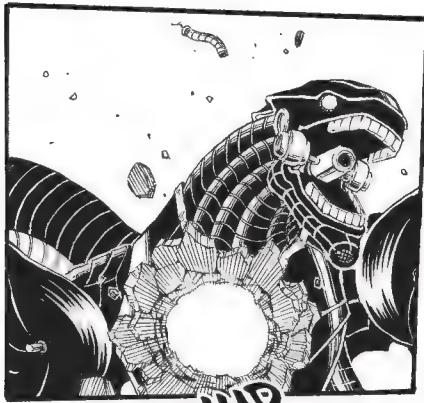
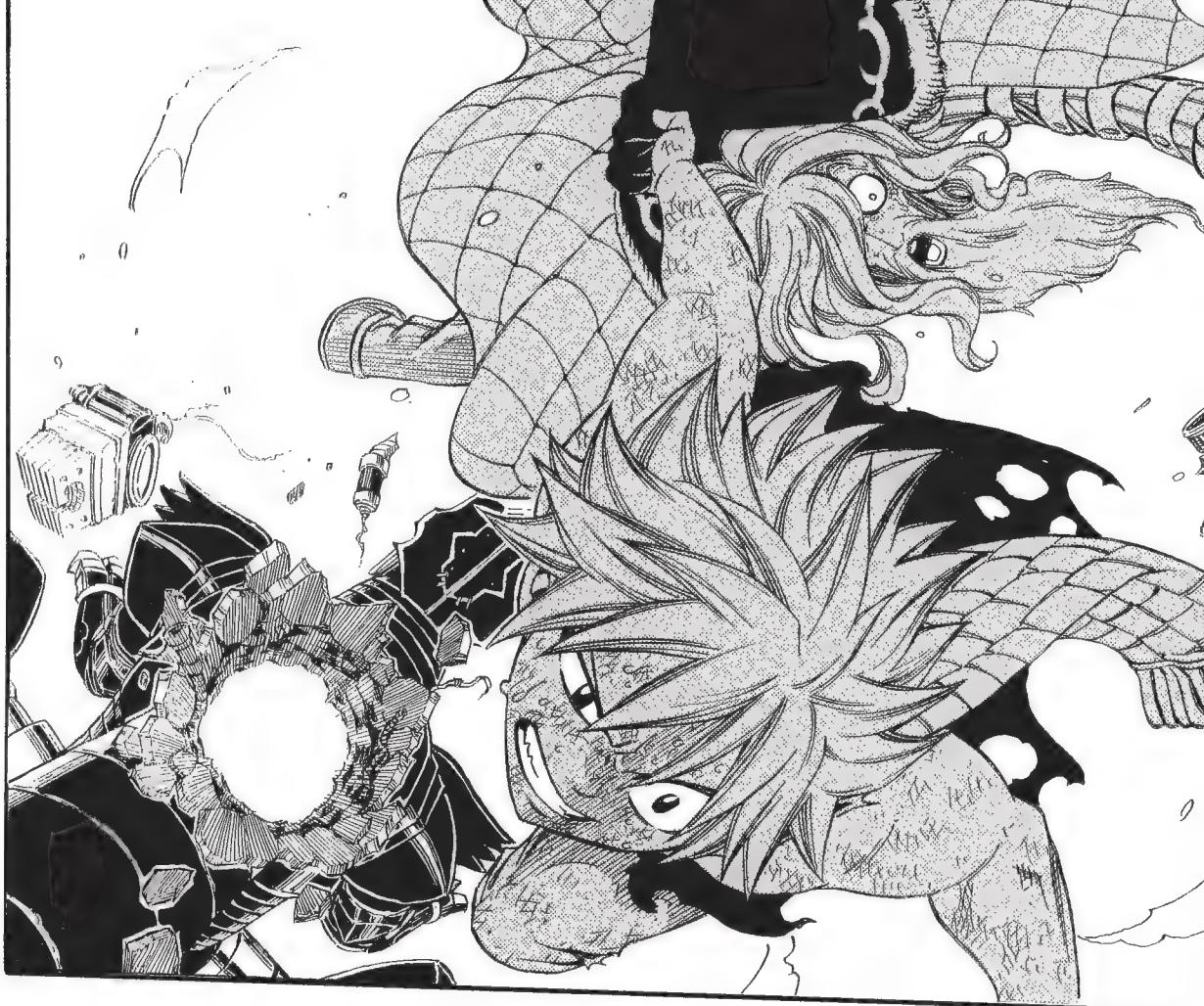


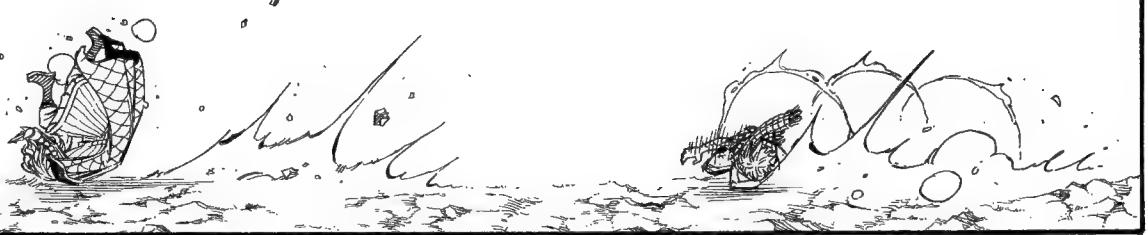
# FAIRY TAIL

フェアリーテイル

## Chapter 195: King of a New World

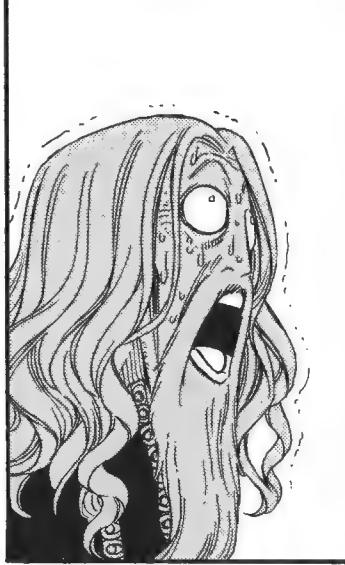
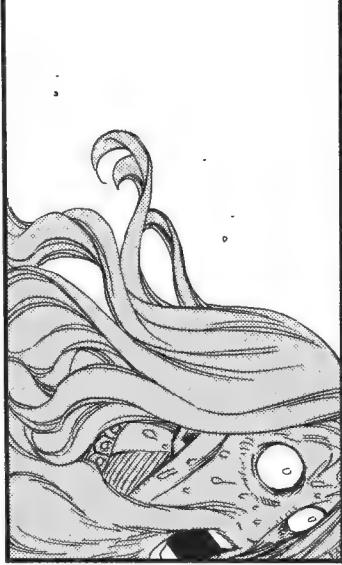






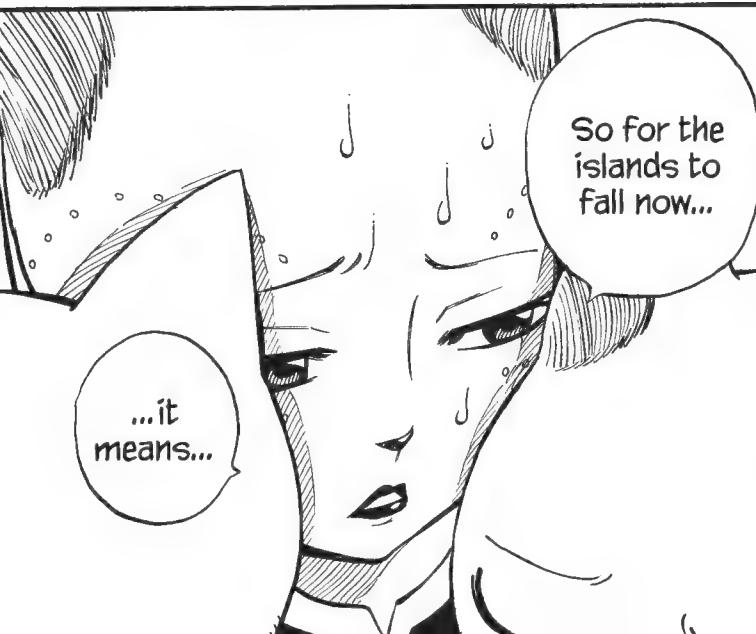
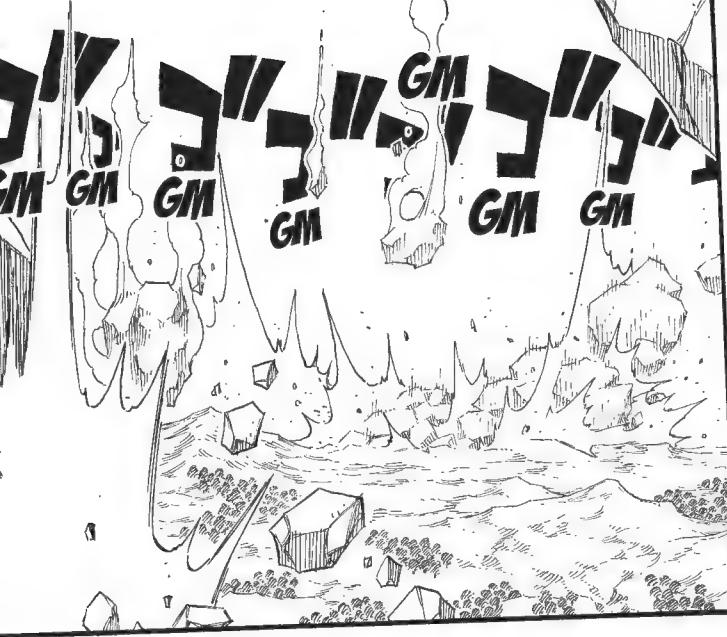


H-help  
...





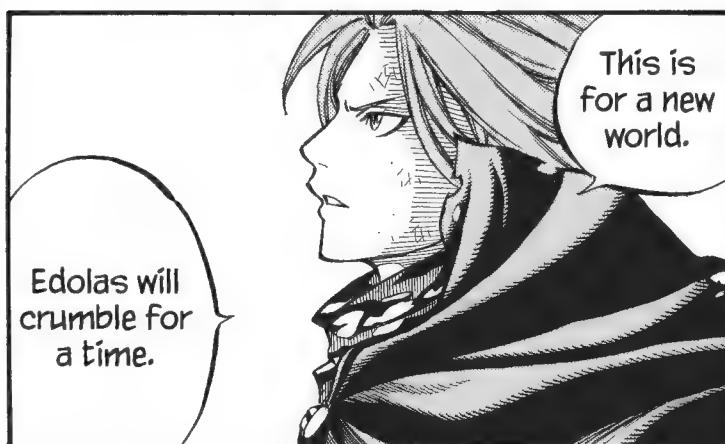
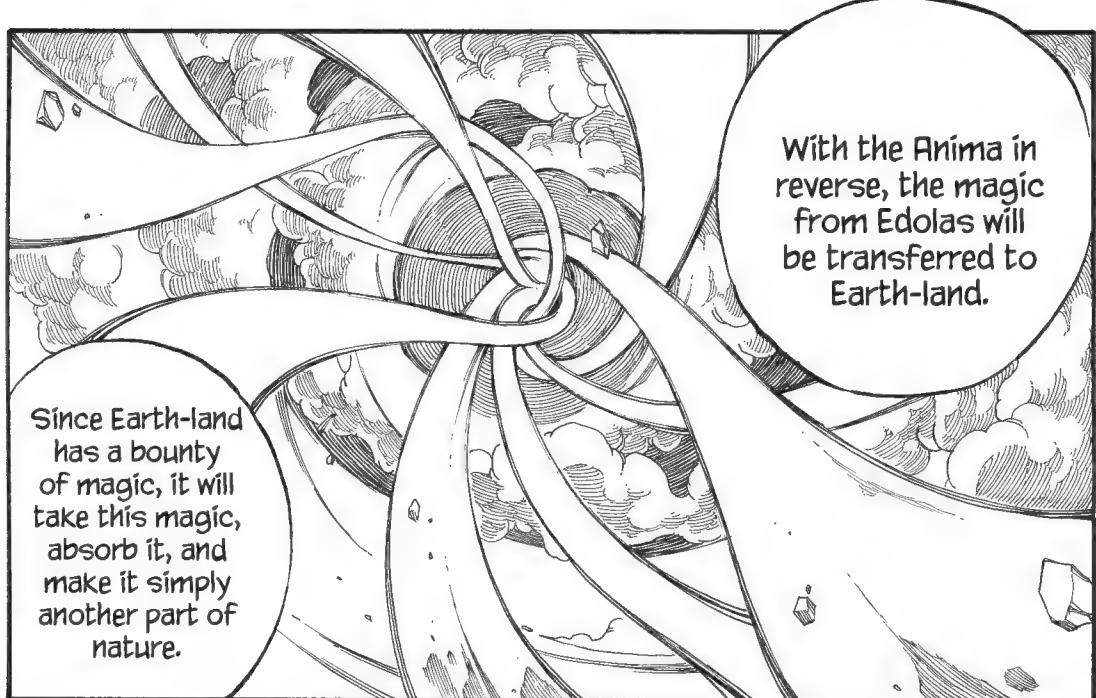


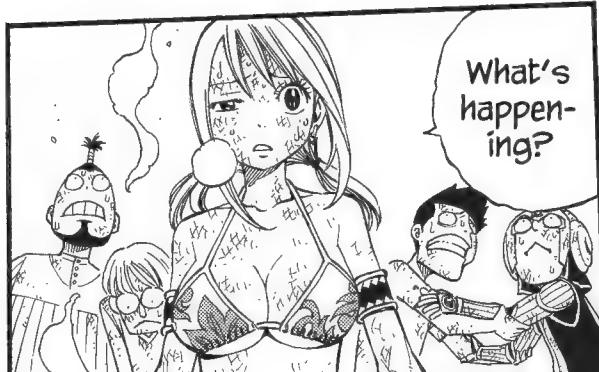
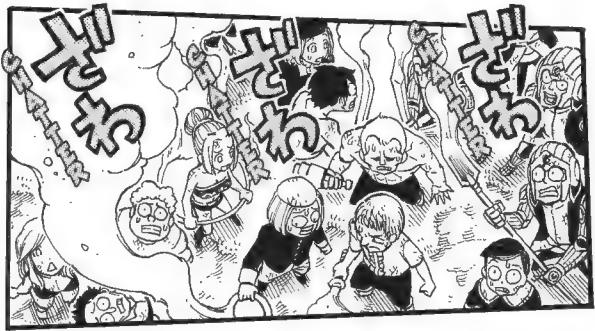


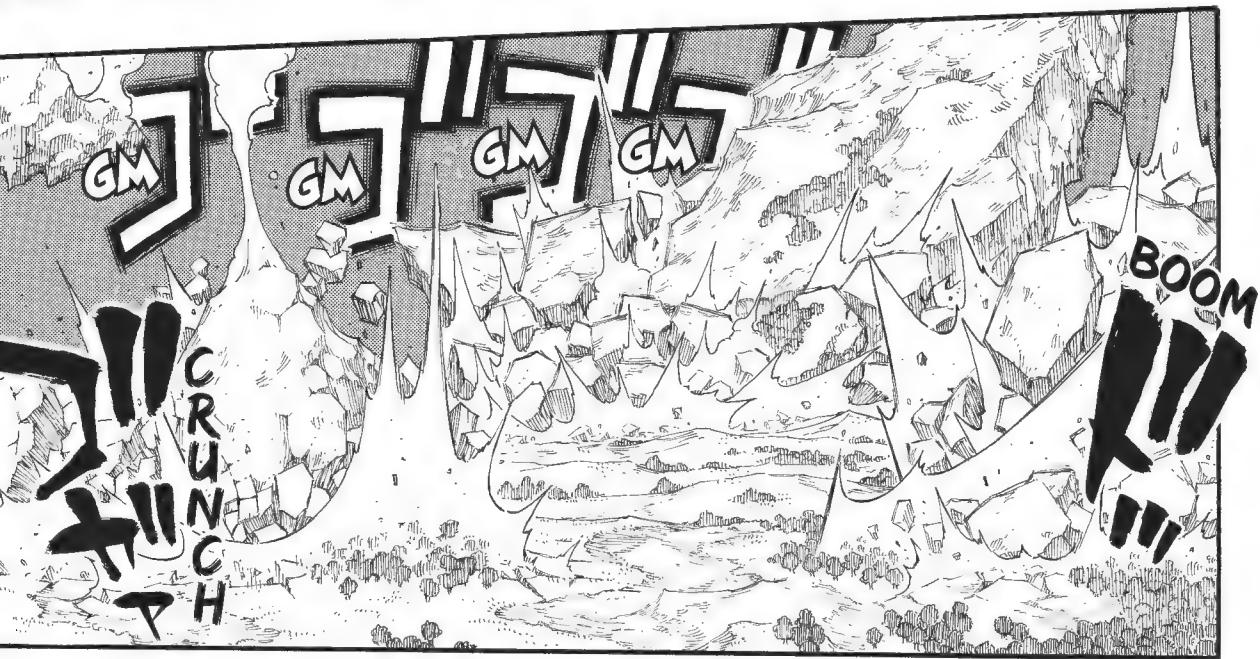
...that  
magic is  
vanishing  
from this  
world.

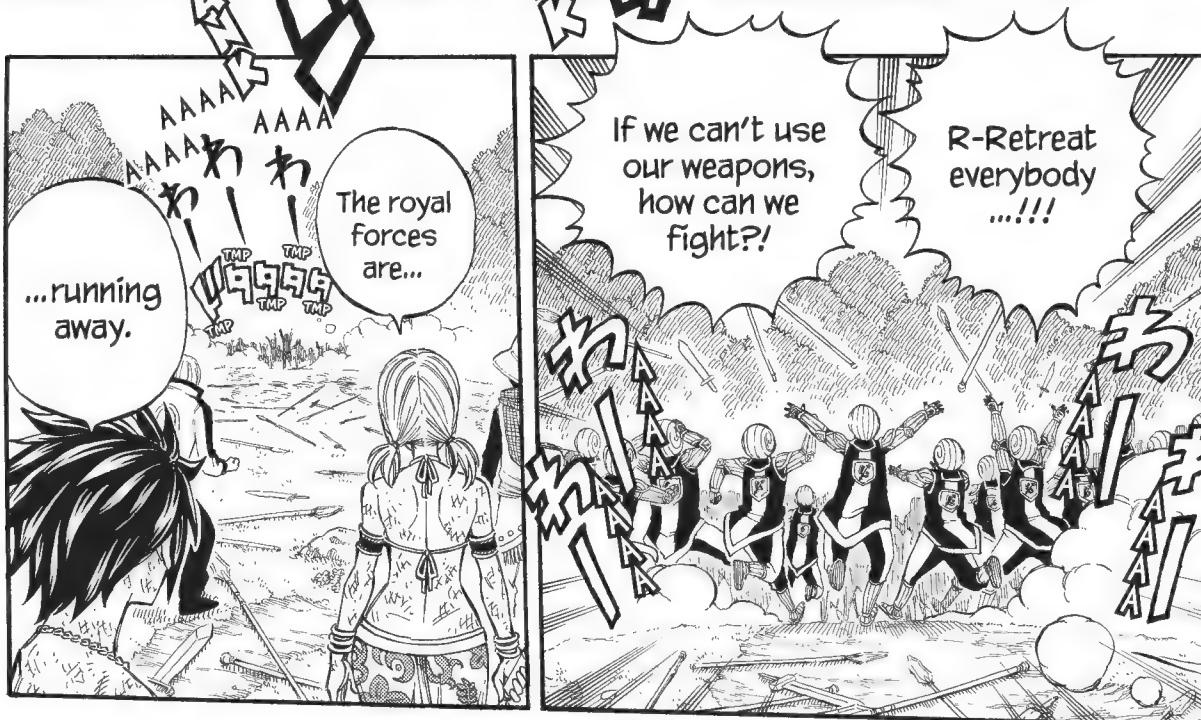
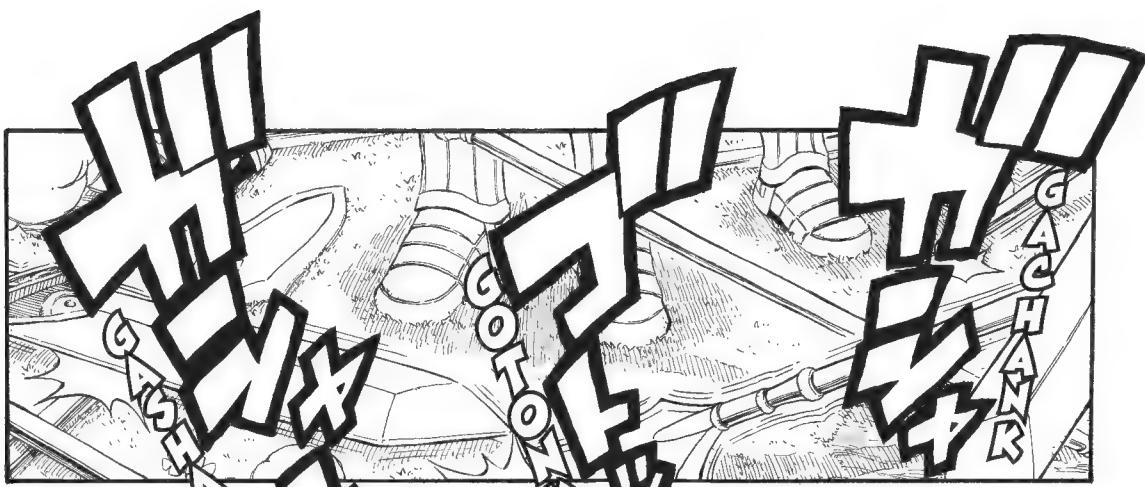
GWOoooooooooooo

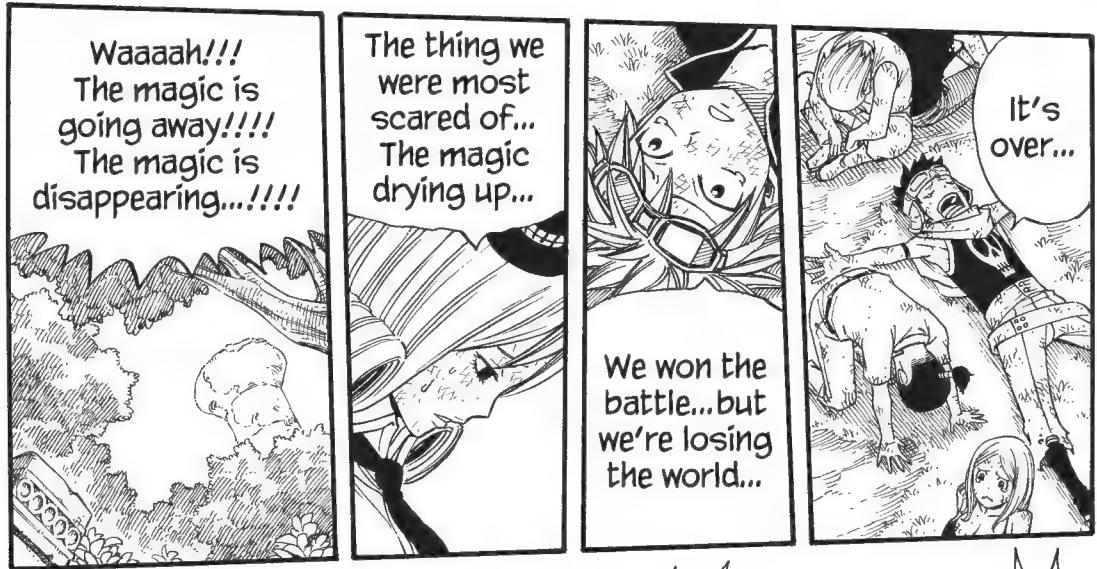






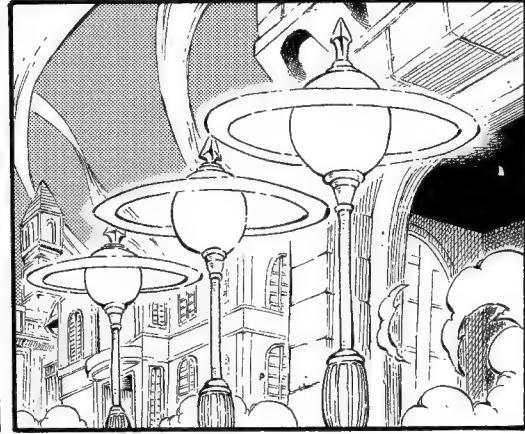
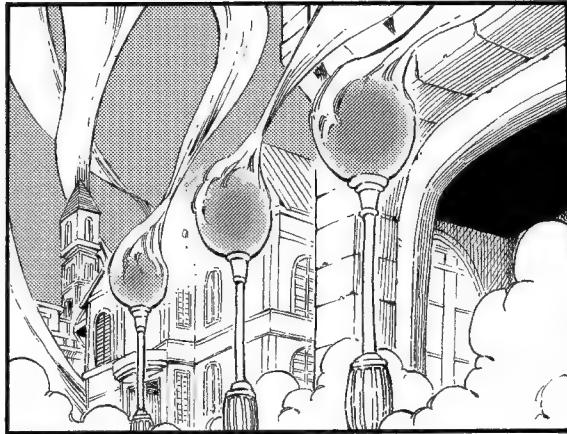


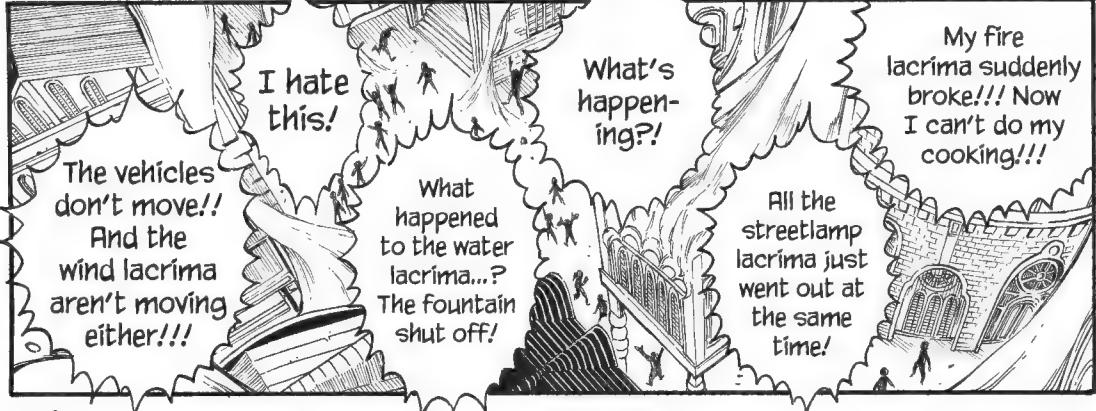
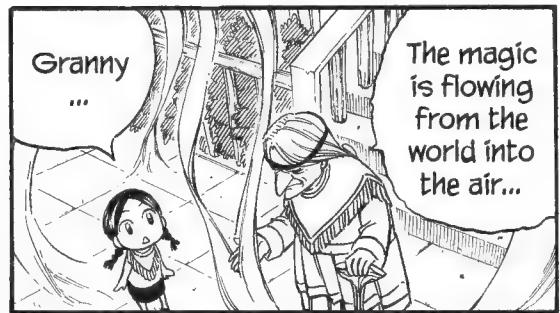
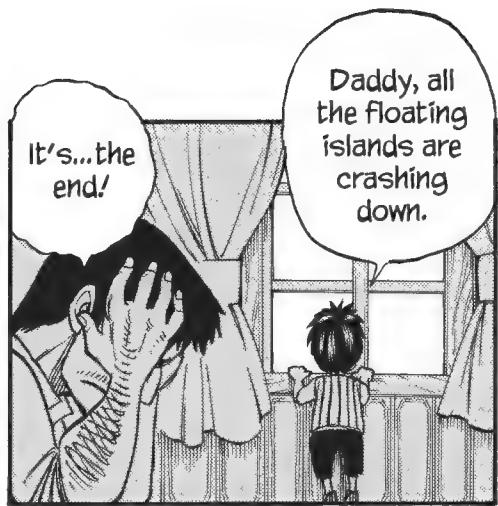




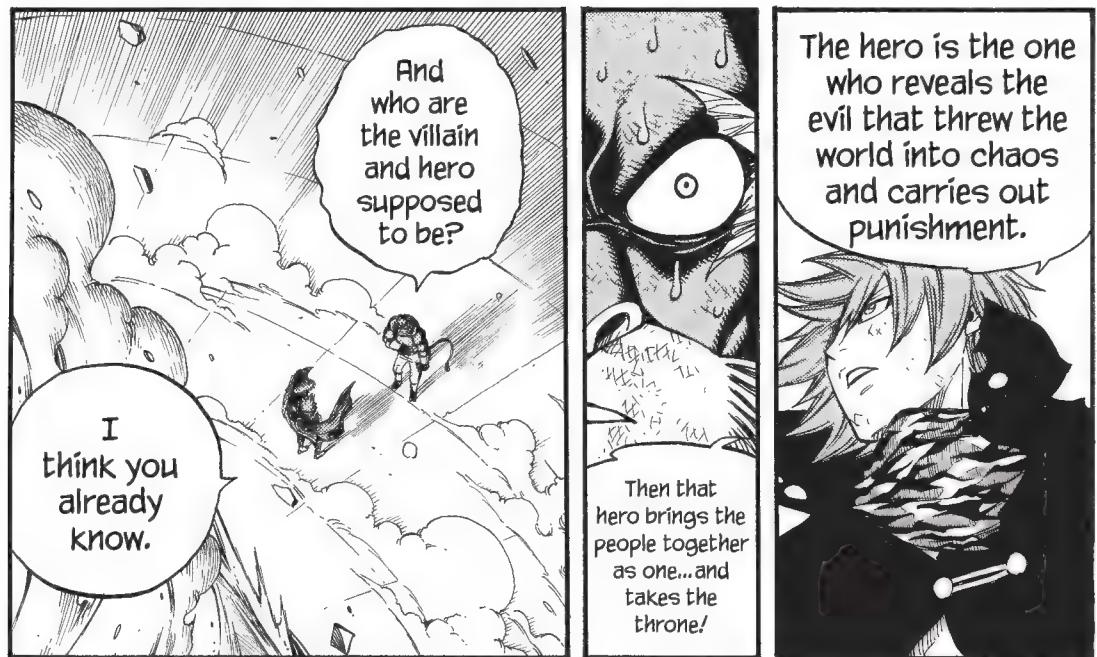


The town  
below  
Edolas  
Castle...











While the hero  
is one who can  
resolve the  
people's mistakes  
and prejudices  
and lead them  
towards peace.  
You.

The villain is the  
one who raised the  
standard of revolt  
against the king  
and stole the magic  
from the world...

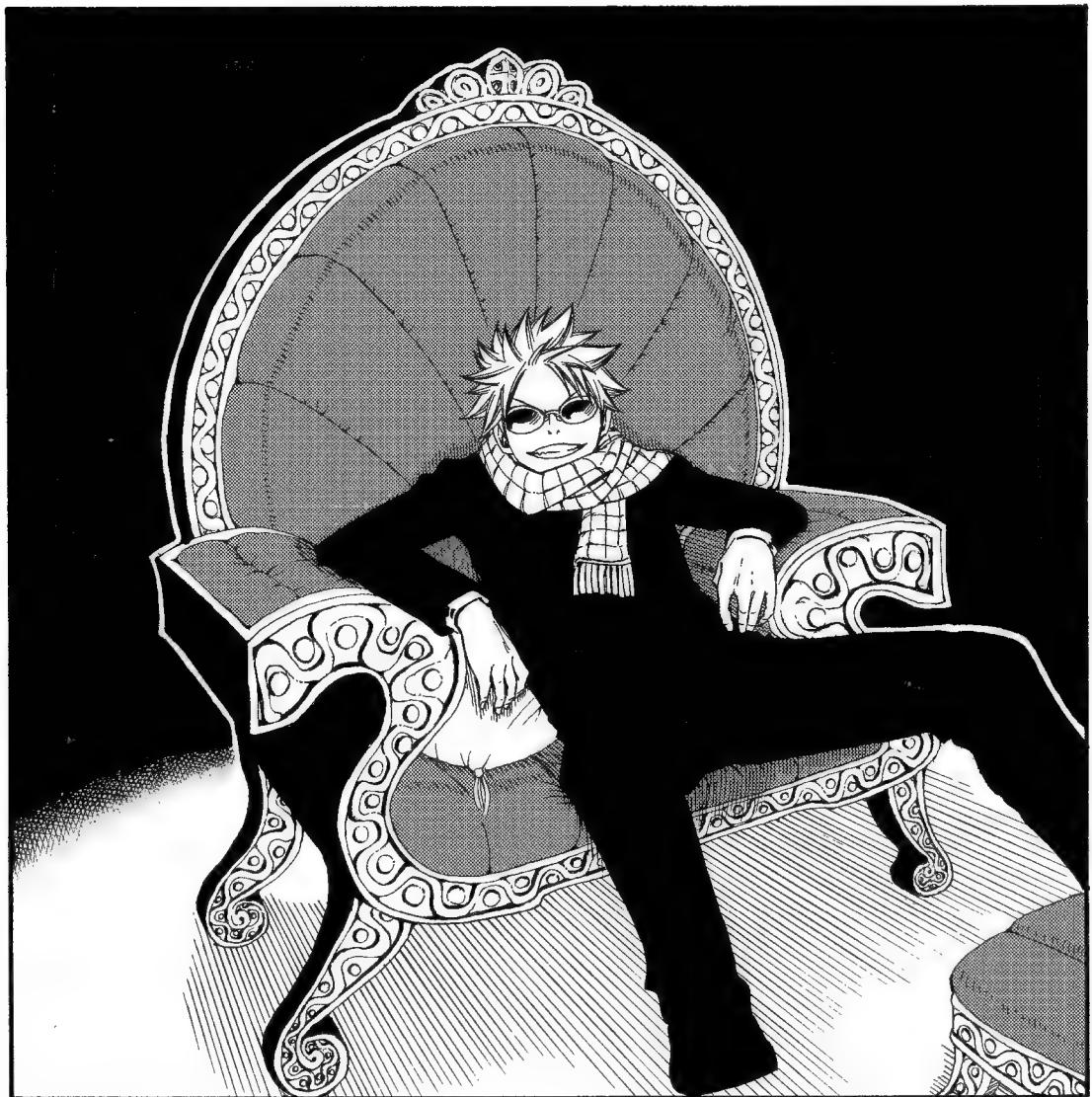


...and  
take your  
place as  
King.

You must  
punish  
me for  
destroying  
the world  
...



## Chapter 196: Demon God Dragneel





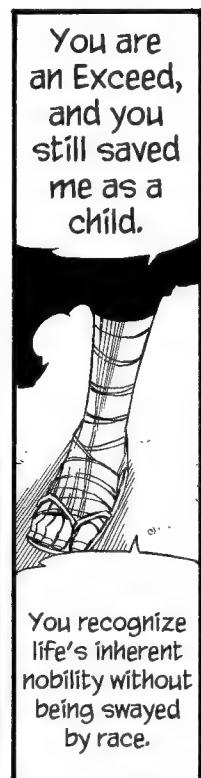
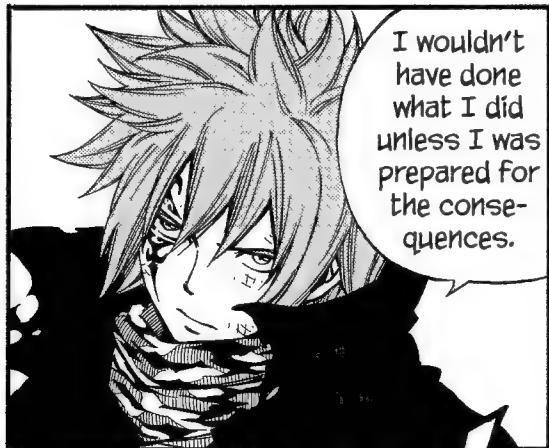
Show the people the way out of this panic...

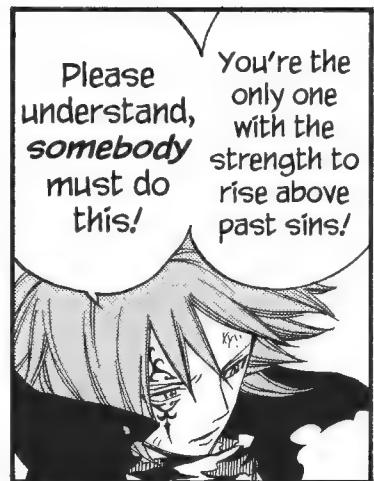
...and become king of this new world... A world without magic.

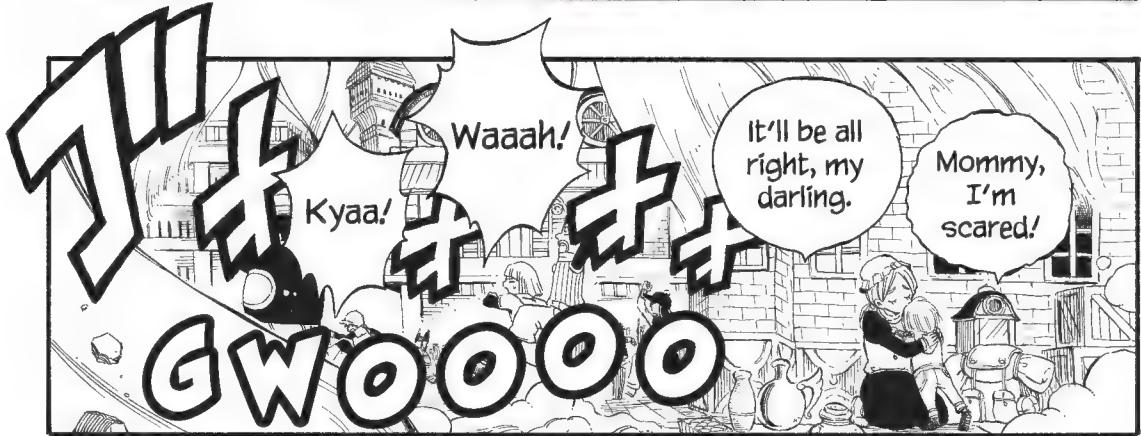
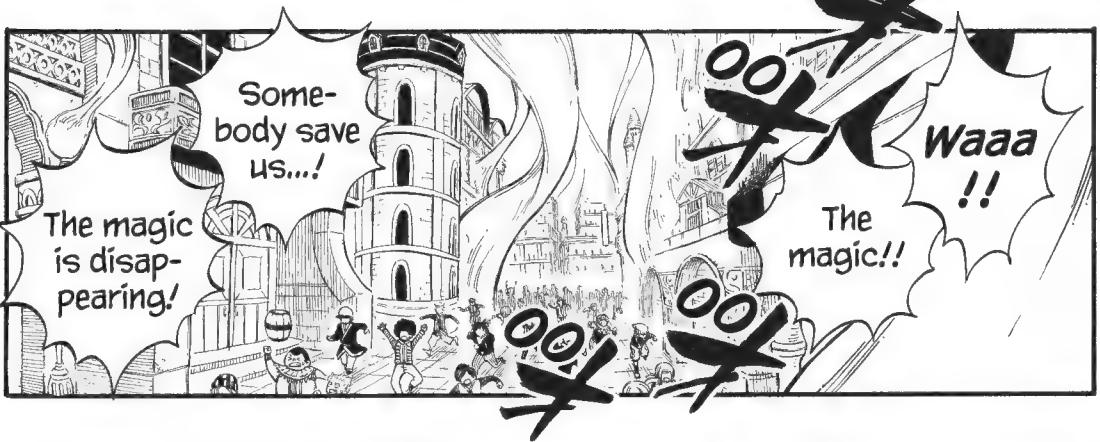


Do you seriously believe that drivel?!

Prince!!!!





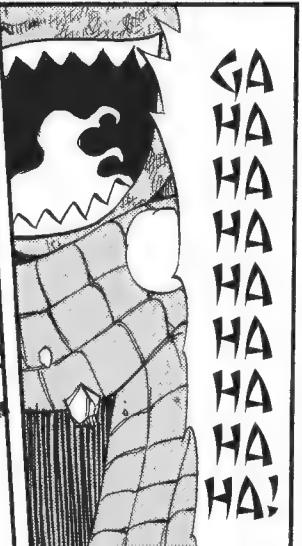
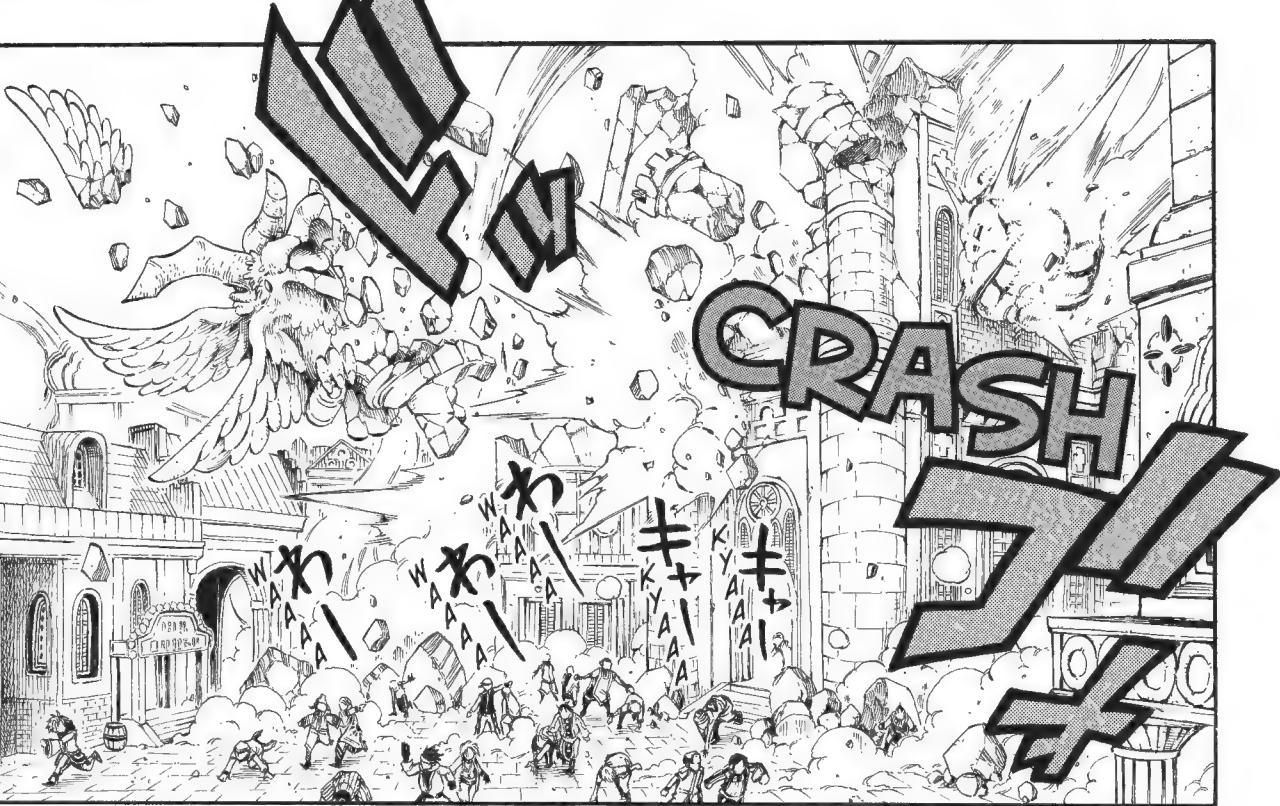
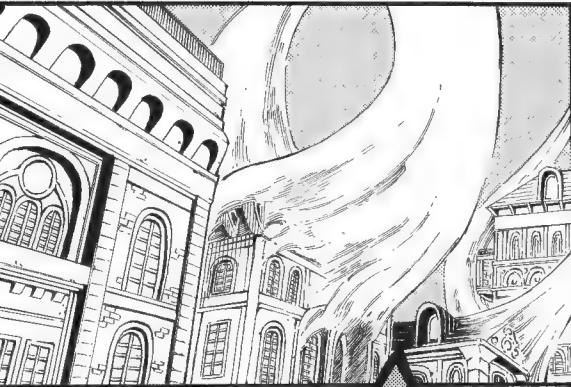












**My  
name  
is the  
Demon  
God  
Dragneel  
!!!!**

**I will  
claim all  
of the  
magic  
in this  
world  
!!!!**



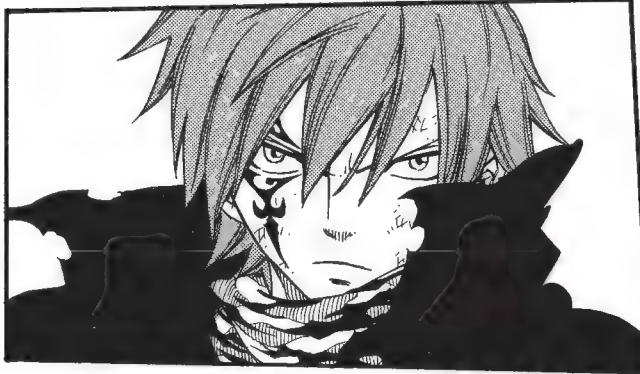


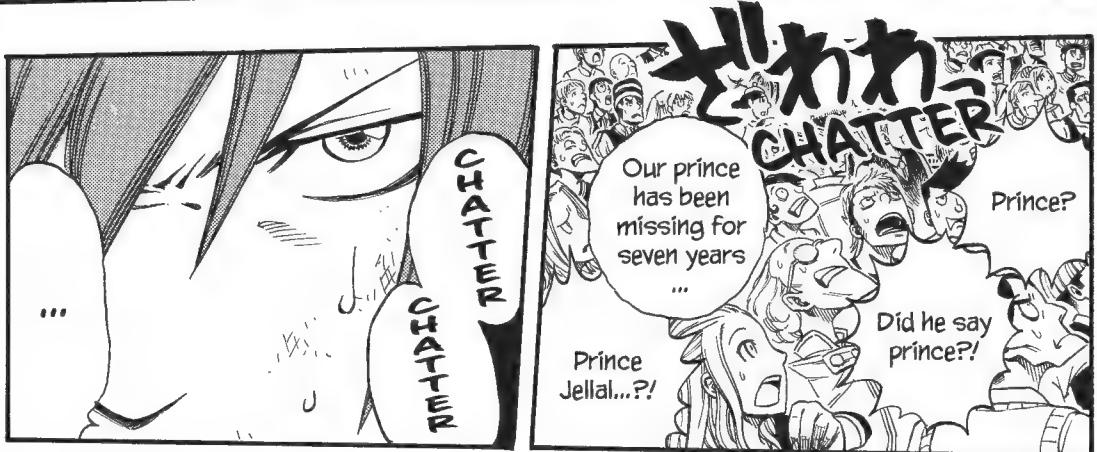


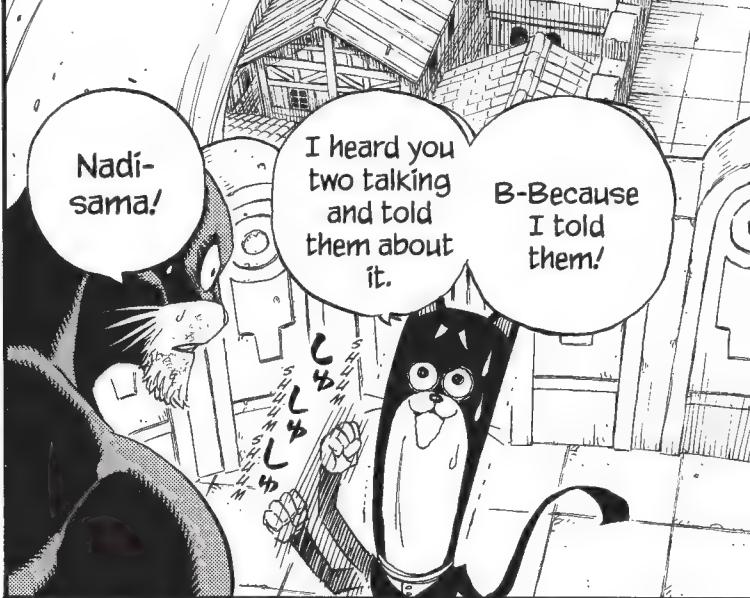
H-He's a monster!!

Fire... from his mouth...

Wh- What is that ?!

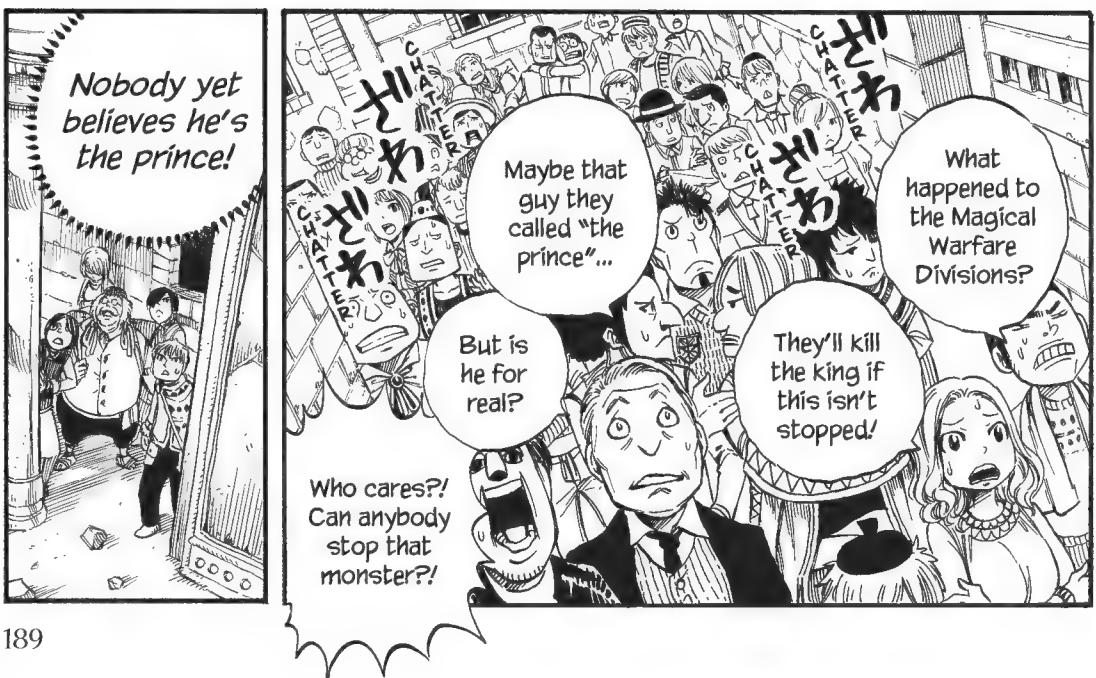


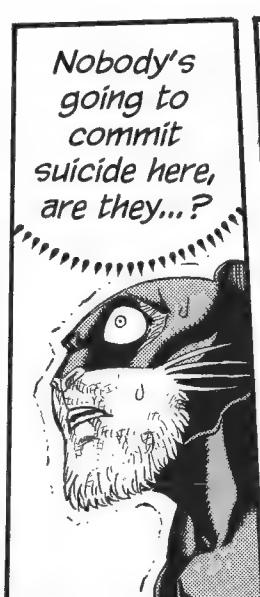






But...





TO BE CONTINUED



FAIRY

TAIL

EXTRA

## Queen Chagot



The queen of Extalia, the country of the Exceed. She can see future events.

## Mejeer



One of the Four Elders of Extalia. He's worried about his aging eyes, but it's his policy to never wear glasses.

## Martam



One of the Four Elders of Extalia. He's taken care of Chagot ever since she was a baby.

## Nichiya



Commander of the Imperial Guard of Extalia. A warrior who loves beautiful scents (perfumes). He leads the hundred-cat-plus Royal Guard.

## Mysdroy



One of the Four Elders of Extalia. He was present when Chagot hatched from her egg, and one of her wings was gone.

## Nadi



The Kingdom of Extalia's Minister of State. He's the one charged with helping to run the Kingdom. For some reason, he's always shaking his arm.

## Muganto



One of the Four Elders of Extalia. He's the only one who knows that the queen's egg was extremely weak, so the queen gave one of her wings to the egg.

## Panther Lily



Commander of the First Magical Warfare Division. Due to his breaking an old Exceed tradition, he was banished from his mother country. A very loyal warrior.

## Lucky



Happy's father, but that's a secret. His favorite things are fish and apples. He's fallen into the habit of saying, "Aye," and, "Kaaaah!"

## Clap



A young male who loves to fly. His special ability is to be able to sleep while using Aera. He's only ever fallen to the ground once.

## Marl



Happy's mother, but that's a secret. A wife who is always smiling and kind. Taught the "shape of a heart" to Carla.

## Salvere



He's spent so much time in southern Edolas that he now has a thick southern accent. He's a skilled hunter.

## Belletokia



A girl who loves pineapples. She wants to grow up to be a scholar. She considers her striped tail to be one of her most charming features.

## Kurubushi



A young Exceed who wants to be a comedian. He often goes down to the ground to gather ideas for his comedy act. For some reason, he always seems to meet up with huge caterpillars.

## Monmo



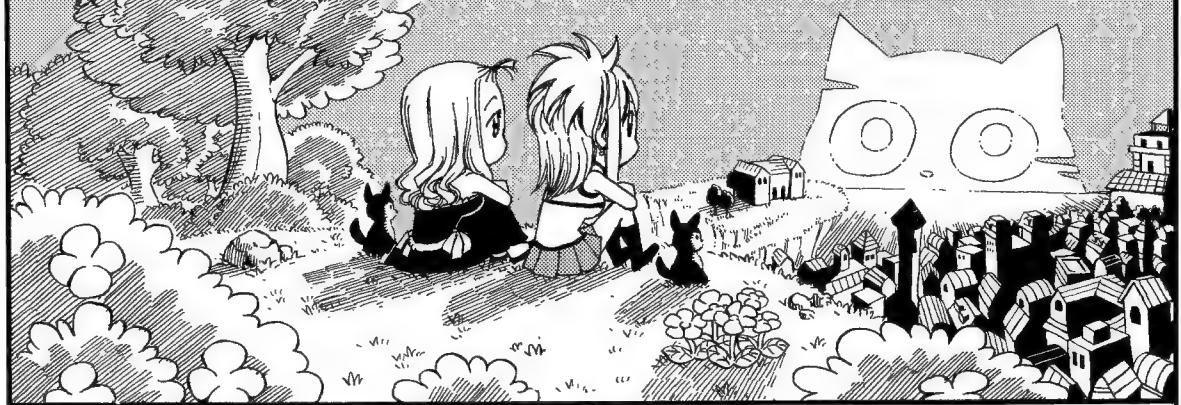
The leader of the children's detective squad. His hobby is collecting unique sticks. He's weak but fast.

## Go-Go-Tiger



A slow-moving delivery cat. Kurubushi is always talking to him, but he never listens. He loves tomatoes and cucumbers.

# EMERGENCY REQUEST! EXPLAIN THE MYSTERIES OF FAIRY TAIL!



**On Magnolia Hill...**

**LUCY:** Mira-san, the setting sun is pretty, huh?

**MIRA:** What's wrong? Why are you so sentimental all of a sudden?

**LUCY:** It's nothing, really. You know... We just got this question.

**Why don't Lucy's Sex-Appeal Missions ever work?**



: Oh, dear.

: You mean it's never worked even once...?

**MIRA:** Hm...  
Seduce Count Everlue → Fail  
Get Into Weekly Sorcerer → Fail  
Miss Fairy Tail Contest → Fail  
Last Volume Against Hughes → Fail

: You're right. Not once!!!

**MIRA:** But remember that this reader

asked why it failed. In other words, he's saying, "It would have worked on me," right?

Your sympathy is almost as bad as the question, so let's move on to the next one.

**Doesn't anybody in the guild have parents?**



**MIRA:** What a good question!

**LUCY:** It doesn't really come up in the story a lot, huh?

**MIRA:** This is foreshadowing to something in the backstory, so I really can't say much about it...

**LUCY:** Are you sure you're even supposed to say that much?

**MIRA:** Then I'll just say what I can... First Elfman and I lost our mother when we were little, and that was the impetus that made us enter the guild.

Continued from the left-hand page. ↓

**LUCY:** And as you read in previous volumes, my father is now in the Akarifa Trade Guild.

**MIRA:** Natsu, Gray, Erza, Gajeel and Wendy have no parents, right?

**LUCY:** Levy-chan and Juvia both said they don't have any parents.

**MIRA:** So there are unexpectedly a lot of **BEEEEP** in the **BEEEEP**

 : Mira-san!! Somebody just bleeped out your words!

 : Oh, dear.

**LUCY:** Not only that, but I hear that you don't even know about this backstory thing, Mira-san!

**MIRA:** Is that so? Then I guess we'll just have to leave it at that.

 : But looking at it like this, there sure are a lot of people without parents, huh...?

 : But the guild is like our family, right?

**LUCY:** (I guess I should be happy that one of my parents is still alive.)

**So where exactly do Natsu and Happy live?**



**LUCY:** I'm very curious about that too!!

**MIRA:** They have a place of their own on the outskirts of Magnolia.

**LUCY:** What kind of place is it?

**MIRA:** A very normal place. It will show up in Volume 24, so enjoy the anticipation! ♥

 : Heh heh heh! Once I know where it is, I'm going to sneak in!!

**MIRA:** Sneak in? Whatever for?

**LUCY:** To show them what it feels like when they do it to me!! I'm going to make him scream,

**"This is my room!"**

**MIRA:** A woman of puny ambitions.

**LUCY:** Huh? It's to surprise them!! Every time I go home, somebody is always there! That's gotta end!

 : Then I'll help you out!

 : Really? Mira-san!

**MIRA:** Sure! It'll be really fun! ♥ Natsu and Happy will come back from a job, and Lucy will be there waiting saying, "Wel•come•home•honey!" ♥

**LUCY:** ...

**MIRA:** Then Lucy will say, "Do you want dinner first, or a bath first, or maybe, ME first? ♥"

**LUCY:** Maybe we should just watch the sunset in silence, Mira-san.

**MIRA:** Maybe you're right.

Continued on the right-hand page. ↑

Send to Hiro Mashima, Kodansha Comics  
451 Park Ave. South, 7th Floor New York, NY 10016

# FAIRY TAIL GUILD d'ART

The Fairy Tail Guild d'Art is looking for illustrations! Please send in your art on a postcard or at postcard size, and do it in black pen, okay? Those chosen to be published will get a signed mini poster! Make sure you write your real name and address on the back of your illustration!



Shizuoka Prefecture, Rocchi



Tokyo, Kaminari



Hyogo Prefecture, Hikaru Matsunaga



Hokkaido, Hikari Matsuda



▼ Yeah, I guess they would get caught...  
▼ Canal's time is coming really soon!  
You have that to look forward to!



Kagawa Prefecture, Saki Nakaniishi



Chiba Prefecture, Yuya Miyata



REJECTION CORNER  
The person came right out and said, "I don't really like Natsu!" on the back of the postcard.

By sending in letters or postcards you give us permission to give your name, address, postal code and any other information you include to the author as is. Please keep that in mind.



Gunma Prefecture, Y-tan



Nagasaki Prefecture, Haruhi



Yamaguchi Prefecture, Asuka



Aichi Prefecture, Yuzu-hime



Osaka, Kaoru Koga



Chiba Prefecture, Yuta Horii



Fukuoka Prefecture, Yuna Yoshida



Kanagawa Prefecture, Hōhei-kyū

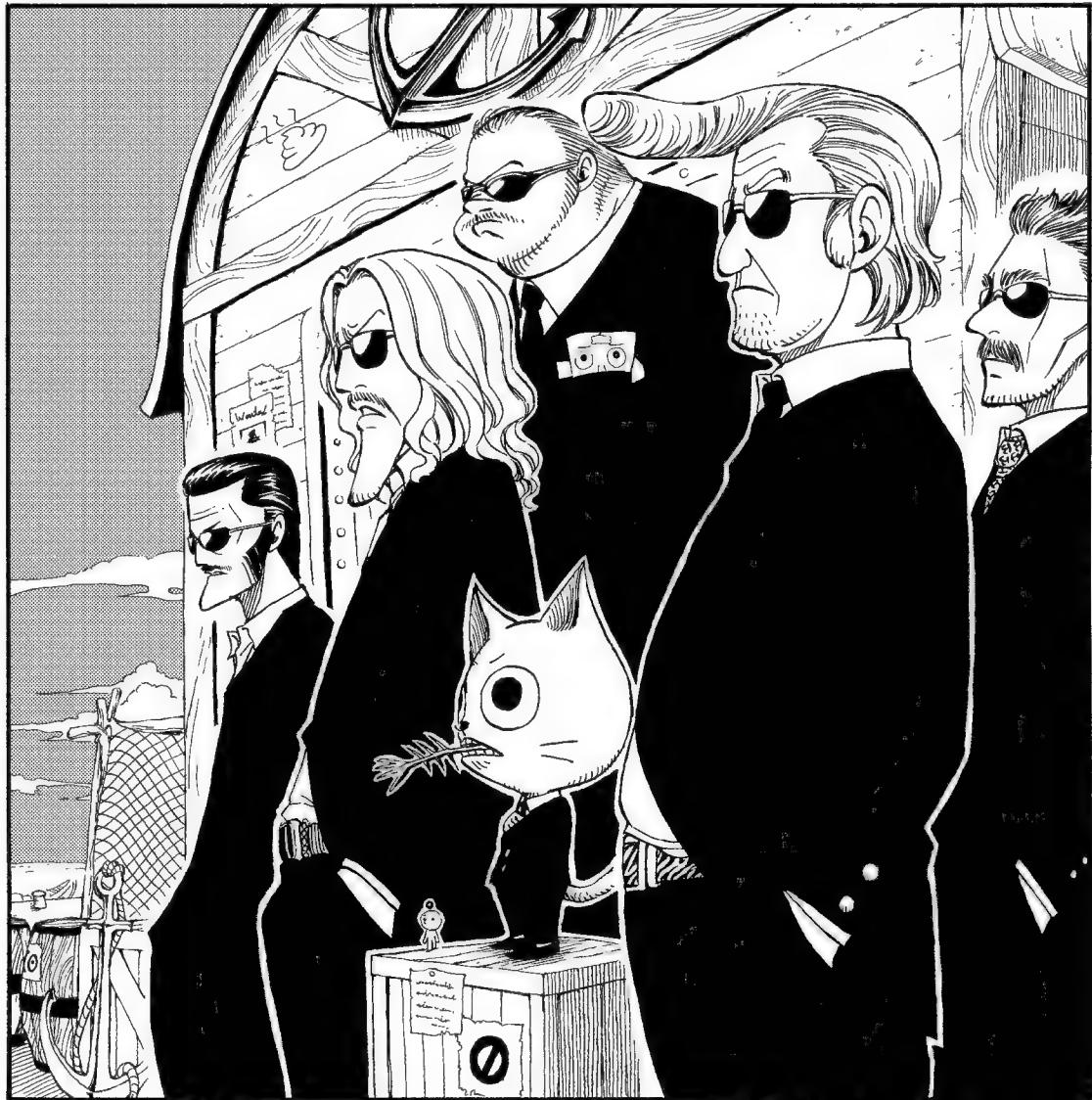
▼ Angry Natsu. I think it's cool how he's becoming one with the flames.

▼ Natsu in a quiet place...  
A very rare picture.

▼ It's Alice!! Everybody's so cute! And it's very well drawn!!

# Spot the Differences!

This image is just like the title page for Chapter 195 on page 151! But if you look very closely, you may spot differences... There are ten differences!! Can you find all of them?



# Afterword

# あとがき

This time, I present the France Trip Diary!! I thought I'd be completely buried in work before the trip, but actually I found some free time here and there. Actually this was my second time going to France, but last time, due to tight scheduling, I wasn't able to go to the palace of Versailles. So this time I was determined!! That's where Marie Antoinette was and all that stuff, right? Well, it was just amazing! I was moved!! Also, French cooking is delicious! The cheese fondue they have there was especially dangerous!! I couldn't stop!! And as a result, I gained a few kilos on the trip. Now, thanks to the wonderful people who showed up for the signing, and the fantastic efforts of the staff, it turned out to be a huge success. I drew and signed for some 600-700 people over the course of three days. This country of France is so far away from Japan, so I was very thankful that so many fans would come to see me! And I was incredibly happy to meet my French fans. I couldn't say much aside from the simplest conversation (greetings), but it was really fun! I especially want to thank the members of the staff who exhausted themselves in their efforts to make it a good signing!! I want to go back again someday soon.

Come to think of it, I wrote last time that I'd like a signing in Japan too... Well, like a drumbeat, events just kept moving along, and I had a signing the other day in Akiba. So I want to say to all of the people who came and to the staff here in Japan too, thank you so much!!! And I'll be doing another signing as soon as I get the chance!!

# Fairy Tail

23

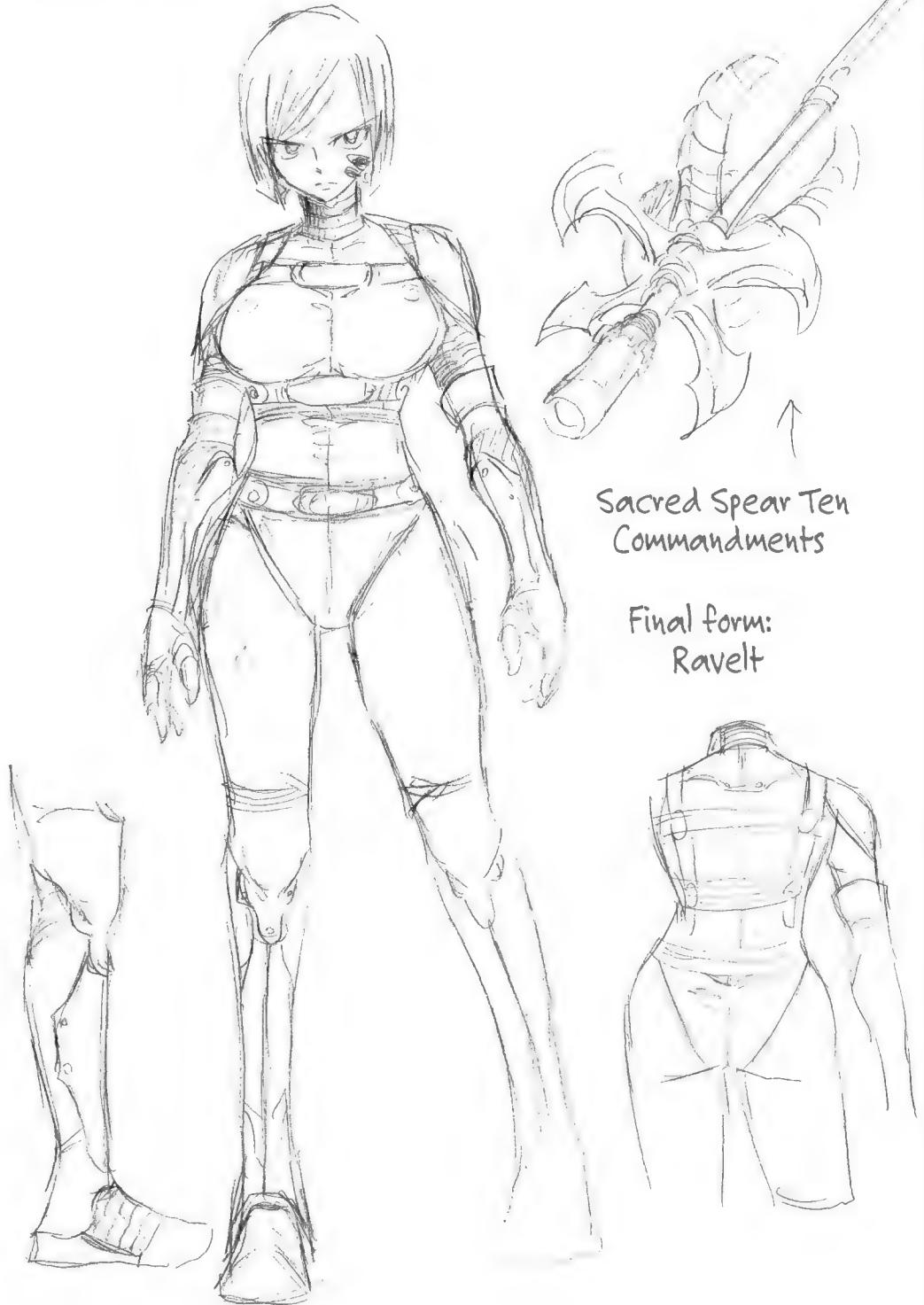
Dragon  
Slayers

!!!!

Bold

HIRO MASAKI

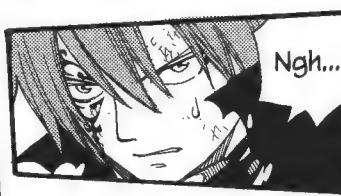
Erza Nightwalker Ver. 2

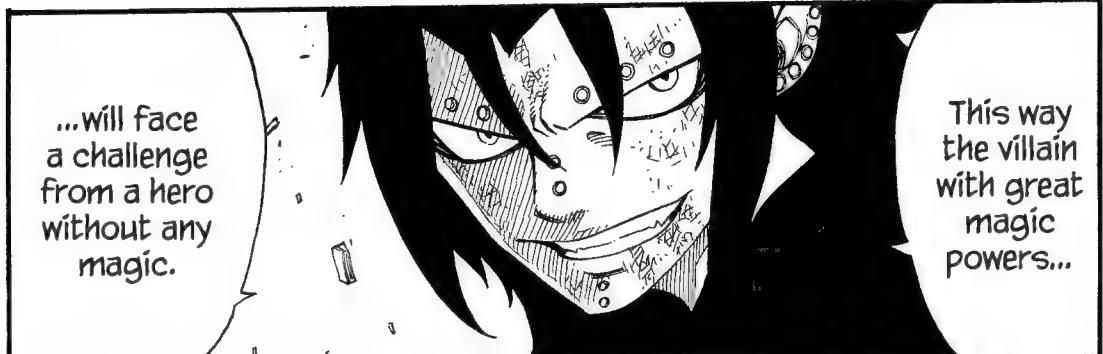


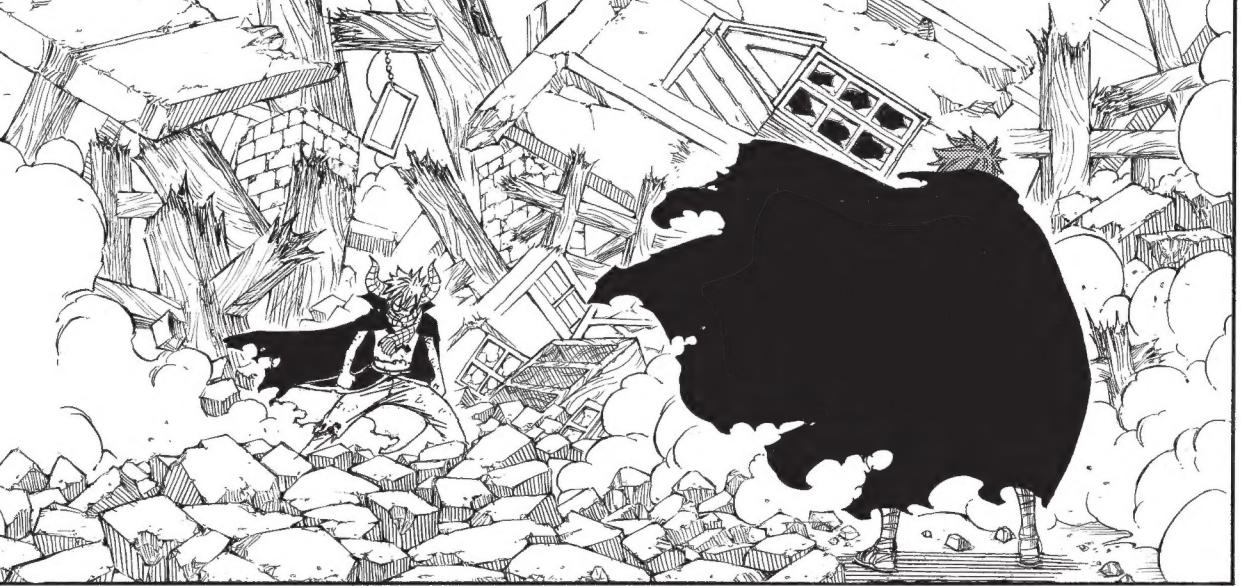
# Preview of *Fairy Tail*, volume 24

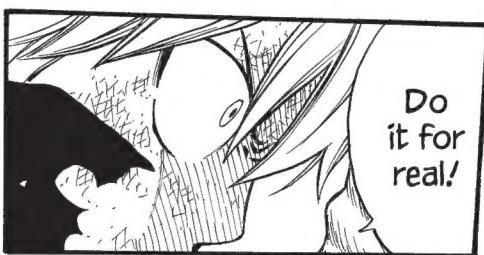
We're pleased to present you with a preview from *Fairy Tail* Vol. 24, coming in March 2013 from Kodansha Comics. See our Web site ([www.kodanshacomics.com](http://www.kodanshacomics.com)) for more details!











*Fairy Tail* volume 23 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

A Kodansha Comics Trade Paperback Original.

*Fairy Tail* volume 23 copyright © 2010 Hiro Mashima  
English translation copyright © 2013 Hiro Mashima

All rights reserved.

Published in the United States by Kodansha Comics, an imprint of Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

Publication rights for this English edition arranged through Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

First published in Japan in 2010 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.  
ISBN 978-1-61262-060-2

Printed in the United States of America.

[www.kodanshacomics.com](http://www.kodanshacomics.com)

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Translator: William Flanagan  
Lettering: Deron Bennett

# TOMARE!



You're going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different type of reading experience.

To start at the *beginning*,  
go to the *end*!

That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the *opposite* of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: Just go to the other end of the book and read each page—and each panel—from right side to left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be!